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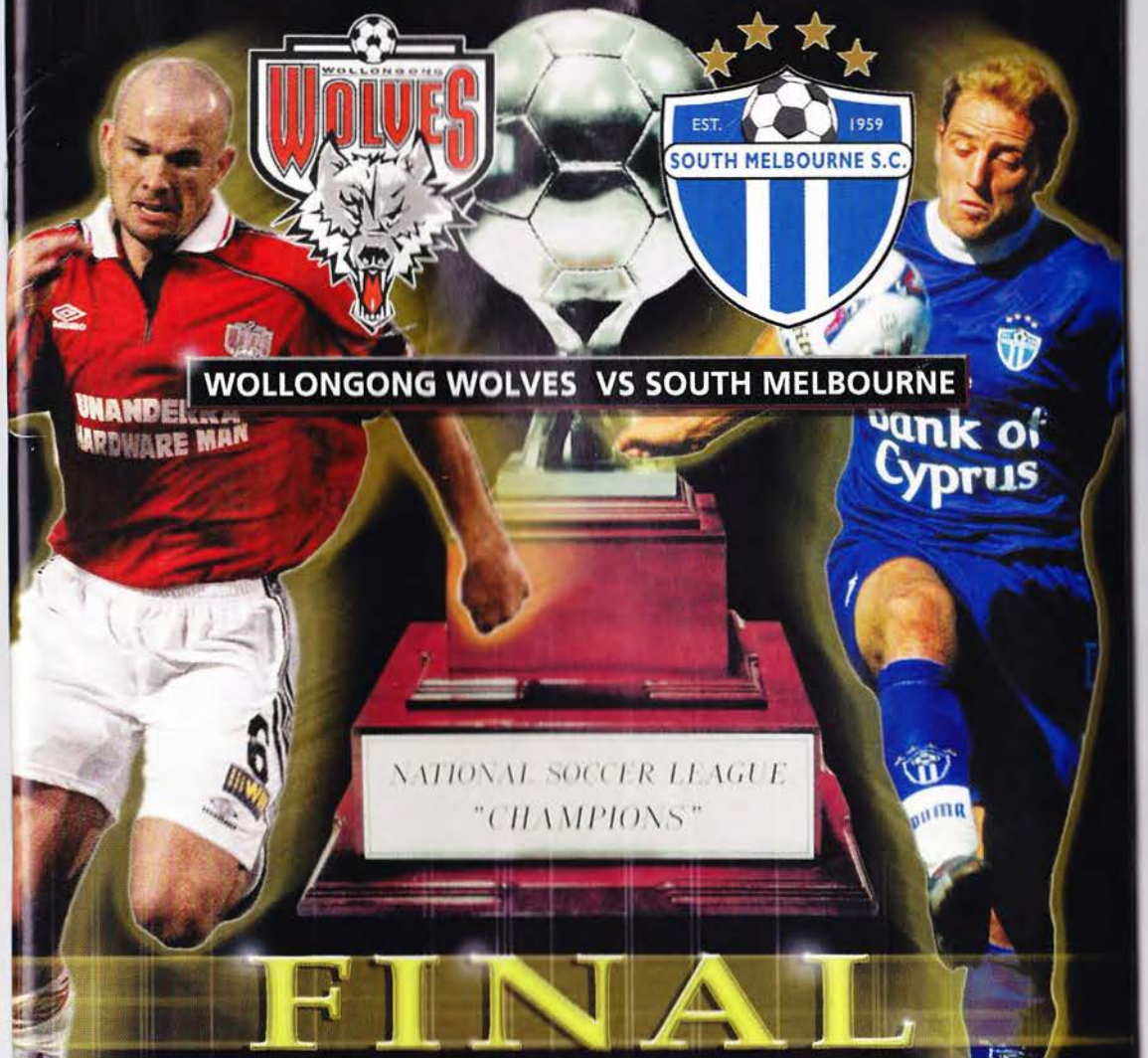


## WOLLONGONG WOLVES VS SOUTH MELBOURNE

**SUNDAY 3rd JUNE 2001**
**KICK OFF 12:00 NOON**
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# From the Men at the Top

www.socceraustralia.com.au

## SOCCER AUSTRALIA CHAIRMAN

**Tony Labbozzetta**
Chairman

Welcome to the 2000-2001 NSL Grand Final as Wollongong Wolves and South Melbourne vie for the Championship Trophy – THE ULTIMATE GOAL.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the National Soccer League Grand Final, the showcase of the game and the pinnacle of a season of hard work.

Congratulations to the two outstanding teams of the season for progressing through the NSL Finals Series to the Grand Final.

Wollongong ended the season with a record number of goals, while South Melbourne held the best defensive record.

With several players from both sides nominated for NSL awards, what better combination for a great football spectacle!

To all of our corporate partners Channel 7, C7, Qantas, Mitre and IEC, our stakeholders and supporters, thank you.

The end of the regular season has brought another pleasing milestone and I am pleased to highlight that for only the third time in our 25-year history, over one million fans enjoyed our game this season.

Thank you all for your support.

Finally, I take this opportunity to wish Wollongong and South Melbourne the best, as they each strive to secure the Championship.

Enjoy the NSL Grand Final and may the best team win!

## NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

**Stefan Kamasz**
General Manager

Welcome to the 2000/2001 National Soccer League Grand Final which today is being contested by undoubtedly this season's two leading teams, South Melbourne and Wollongong Wolves.

A Grand Final involving the current Australian and Oceania Champions and the immediately preceding Australian and Oceania Champions justifiably sets the scene for what has the potential to be a great match.

With many outstanding players in both teams, the crowd at today's event, and those watching on television, have the opportunity to witness quality Australian footballers displaying skills to which youngsters will no doubt seek to aspire.

To all of the clubs which participated this season thank you for the part you have played in what has at times been a difficult year. To the players, coaching and ancillary staff, referees, administrators and the many hundreds of volunteers at NSL and club level, thank you for your commitment, it is greatly valued.

To the supporters, who again surpassed the one million mark, thank you for your continued patronage.
Without you there is no NSL and we greatly appreciate the support you all provide your respective teams.

To our corporate partners Qantas, Channel 7, C7, Mitre and IEC, we say thank you for your invaluable support and contribution to the league. With your continued assistance we will ensure that the League moves forward.

Finally to everyone associated with South Melbourne and Wollongong Wolves, whether it be the players, coaches, administration, sponsors, fans, whoever, congratulations and thank you for what you have achieved this season. Good luck to both teams and indeed our match officials for today. May the best team win.



From the Men at the Top



## WOLLONGONG WOLVES PRESIDENT

**Joe Cachia**
President

Today's grand final is a very special occasion in more ways than one for the Wollongong Wolves. It is the final time we'll see captain Matt Horsley in the red and white of Wollongong as he's heading to Perth Glory at the end of the season - the team we defeated to win last season's memorable grand final.

Matty, as he's become affectionately known in the region, is one of finest products to come out of the South Coast along with our other Socceroo Scott Chipperfield. Other Wollongong great's who have worn the green and gold include Bob Bignell, Bob Young, Adrian Alston and Peter Wilson. And then there's Matty.

His decision to leave is certain to spark a wave of emotion around Parramatta Stadium. He's been very loyal to the Wolves over 11 years and we wish him well for the future. His achievements, combined with others, has turned Wollongong into a region rich in sporting talent. Let's not forget we currently hold titles for both the National Soccer League and National Basketball League. And today's grand final appearance continues to send out a message that Wollongong is quickly becoming a sporting capital of Australia.

Our supporters, too, have been great this season.
Especially those 11,000 - plus who rocked the house in the major semi-final against South Melbourne at WIN Stadium. It was a memorable atmosphere. Many thanks to coach Ron Corry and his team for another great season. And all the best to our opponents, South Melbourne.

On behalf of the directors, management and fans of the Wolves, I wish the boys well today. Let's keep the Cup in Wollongong!

## SOUTH MELBOURNE PRESIDENT

**George Vasilopoulos,**
President

On behalf of the South Melbourne Soccer Club, we welcome all supporters to the 2000/2001 National Soccer League Grand Final at the Parramatta Stadium.

Today we see our club return to the Grand Final after a year's absence, and we face the team that took our title last year, the Wollongong Wolves. If we succeed today then it will be three championships in four years and a record fifth title since the inception of the National Soccer League in 1977, which would be an amazing feat in any national sporting code.

We once again represent the state of Victoria and look forward to the support of our travelling supporters who have come to Parramatta Stadium by planes, buses, trains and motor vehicles. Our players are looking for their support to help get them over the line.

We also would like to congratulate Wollongong on their qualification into today's Grand Final. Our teams have shown all year to be the best two teams all year and over the past three seasons, and if our clashes throughout the year are any indication, then today's Grand Final should be tremendous match.

To our major sponsor, The Bank of Cyprus and their Managing Director Mr Harry Toukalas, we thank them for their fantastic support. We would also like to thank our Corporate Major Partners - General Diagnostic Laboratories, Vic Health/IDI, and the Original Juice Company.

I would like welcome Mr John Ilhan, Managing Director of Crazy John's Mobileworld as a new Corporate Major Partner to the club. We are very proud to be associated with a fantastic company in Crazy John's, and we look forward to a long-term partnership Mr Ilhan and his company.

I trust that you will enjoy what is the pinnacle of Australian club soccer, the National Soccer League Grand Final. Go South.

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# The Finals Campaign



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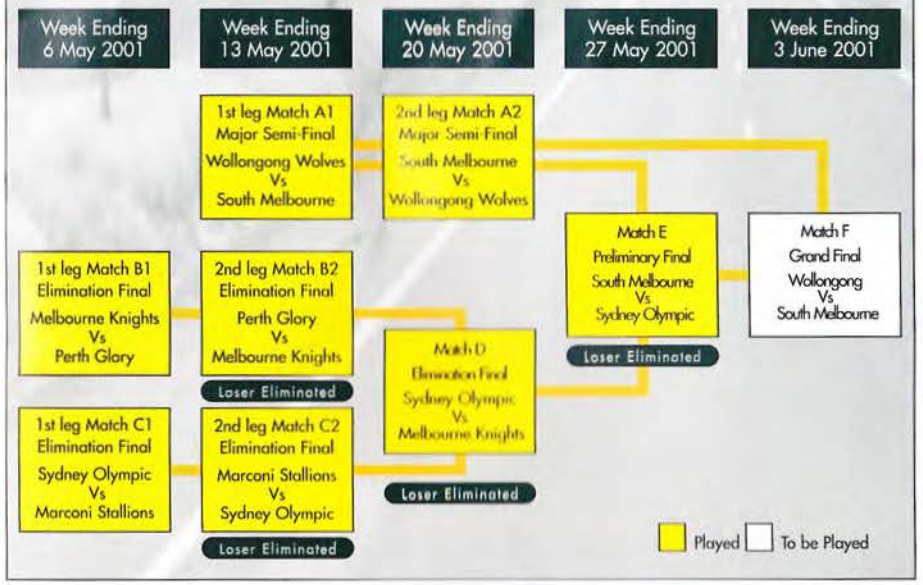
## THE ROAD TO THE FINALS




## Championship Rules

**FIRST ROUND**

The 1st round shall be conducted on a two-leg basis

(a) The team, which has scored the highest total of goals in both matches, shall be declared the winner.

(b) If the total goals scored by both teams are equal at the conclusion of normal playing time in the second match, the goals scored away from home shall count double.

(c) Extra Time (Golden Goal)

(i) If the number of goals scored away from home by both clubs is equal then extra time of fifteen (15) minutes each way will be played immediately following the second match and the Golden Goal rule will apply. Should either team score during this period, the game will immediately conclude and the team who scored shall be declared the winner.

(d) Penalty Kicks – If the teams still remain equal after this procedure, the match shall be determined by penalty kicks taken in accordance with FIFA instructions

"Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted"
"All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the end of the final game"
"Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time"
The setting alight o, or the igniting or discharging of amy type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares, is strictly prohibited"

**"OFFENDERS WILL BE ARRESTED AND CHARGED"**

The Finals Campaign
The Top Six


NATIONAL

## ELIMINATION FINAL (1ST LEG)

*Melbourne Knights Joel Porter, is tackled by Perth Glory's Gareth Naven.*

**Knights Stadium, Sunday 6th May 2001**
**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 0**
**PERTH GLORY 0**
**Half-Time score:** 0-0
**Attendance:** 5,380

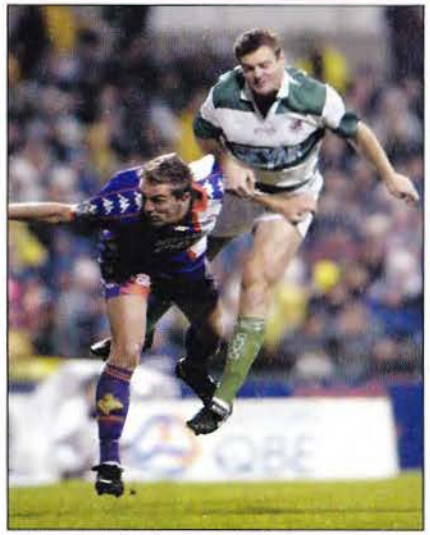
**Andrew Marth (Melbourne Knights coach):**
"It is not the ideal result to take to Perth, but I was encouraged by the way we played well overall, especially considering we had the upper hand early in the match, and we will be looking for a win in Perth next week."

**Bernd Stange (Perth Glory coach):**
"If we can't win in Perth, then we don't deserve anymore chances...this was a fantastic away result considering we had ten men for an hour."

**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS STARTING LINE-UP:**
Lupce Acevski (gk), Daniel Vasilevski, Rodrigo Vargas, Saso Ognenovski, Joey Rajher (Alex Kiratzoglou 46'), Toto Da Costa, Steve Horvat, Adrian Cervinski, Andrew Marth, Joel Porter, Lubo Lapsansky.

**PERTH GLORY STARTING LINE-UP:**
Jason Petkovic (gk), Craig Deans, Scott Miller, Ljubo Milicevic, Jamie Harnwell, Gareth Naven, Edgar Junior, Kasey Wehrman, Damian Mori, Bobby Despotovski, Alistair Edwards (Gary Faria 63').

## ELIMINATION FINAL (2ND LEG)



*Andrew Marth of Melbourne Knights, challenges Perth Glory's Ljubo Milicevic, Elimination Final 2nd Leg.*

**Subiaco Oval, Saturday 12th May 2001**
**PERTH GLORY 2**
(Craig Deans 67',
Brad Maloney 93+)
**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 2**
(Adrian Cervinski 5',
Steve Horvat 28')
**Half-Time score:** 2-0
**Attendance:** 31,710

**Bernd Stange (Perth Glory coach):**
"We couldn't find our usual attacking style...we played confused football for forty-five minutes, but we should be fair...if we were not able to beat them at home, we didn't deserve it – there were no excuses."

**Andrew Marth (Melbourne Knights coach):**
"This is a titanic win for the Knights, and will definitely go down in history for the boys...this will be with us for our entire lives, and the team played beyond themselves."

**PERTH GLORY STARTING LINE UP:**
Jason Petkovic (gk), Ljubo Milicevic, Gareth Naven, Scott Miller, Alistair Edwards (Brad Maloney 57'), Bobby Despotovski, Kasey Wehrman, Edgar Junior (Nick Mrdja 57'), Damian Mori, Gary Faria, Craig Deans (Dion Valle 83')

**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS LINE UP:**
Lupce Acevski (gk), Daniel Vasilevski, Rodrigo Vargas, Sasa Ognenovski, Joel Porter (Joey Rajher 89'), Andy Vargas (Ivan Jolic 68'), Toto Da Costa, Steve Horvat, Adrian Cervinski (Jason Vukadin 87'), Andrew Marth, Lubo Lapsansky

## ELIMINATION FINAL (1ST LEG)

*Angelo Costanzo of Marconi is tackled by Sydney Olympic's Troy Halpin.*

**Belmore Stadium, Sunday 6th May 2001**
**SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3**
(Pablo Cardozo 3', 59',
Kresmir Marusic 30')
**MARCONI STALLIONS 1**
(John Gibson 89')
**Half-Time score:** 2-0
**Attendance:** 5,154

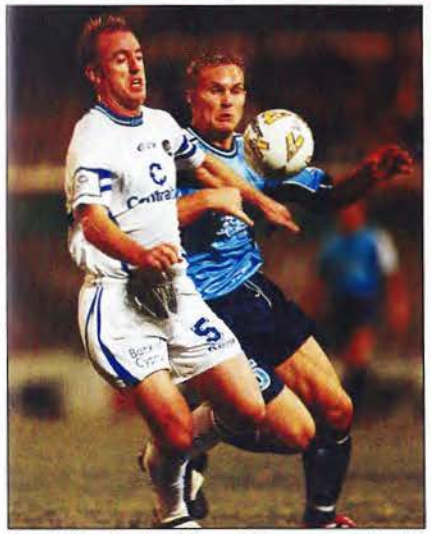
**Branko Culina (Sydney Olympic coach):**
"I was very pleased with our performance, and overall, we played some of the best football we have all season, and probably a bit unlucky not to score a few more. The late goal was disappointing, but you can't get too annoyed because of the quality of football we played today."

**Eddie Krncevic (Marconi Stallions coach):**
"The late goal has probably given us a little bit of hope, and I would have said three-nil would have been very hard to come back, but three-one is worth two goals like I said, the consolation goal for us gives us some hope."

**SYDNEY OLYMPIC STARTING LINE-UP:**
Clint Bolton (gk), Paul Kohler, Scott Baillie, Ante Juric, Kresimir Marusic (Dylan MacAllister 88'), Troy Halpin, George Goutzioulis, Greg Owens, Elias Augerinos (Damon Collina 75'), Pablo Cardozo, Andrew Packer (Peter Zorbas 77').

**MARCONI STALLIONS STARTING LINE-UP:**
David Aceski (gk), Mark Babic, Angelo Costanzo, Dominic Longo, James Alkos, Norman Tome (Saso Radulovic 78'), John Maisano (Vlado Zoric 45'), John Gibson, Brendan Renaud, Kris Trajanovski (Royce Brownlie 61'), Grant Last.

## ELIMINATION FINAL (2ND LEG)



*Scott Baillie of Sydney Olympic (left) competes for the ball with Royce Brownlie of Marconi Stallions.*

**Marconi Stadium, Sunday 13th May 2001**
**MARCONI STALLIONS 0**
**SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2**
(Pablo Cardozo 35',
Kresimir Marusic 62')
**Half-Time score:** 0-1
**Attendance:** 6,087

**Eddie Krncevic (Marconi Stallions coach):**
"Like Branko said, it was very competitive today and we got beaten by the better team overall ... it's a credit for my players for putting in such a good effort even with a man down and up against it, but I'm very proud of the way they conducted themselves today and throughout the season ."

**Branko Culina (Sydney Olympic coach):**
"They were very competitive and it is a credit to Eddie and Marconi. There is not much Eddie could have done because they were beaten by a better side ... we beat them four times this year and it is no disrespect to them, it's just the way it is."

**MARCONI STALLIONS STARTING LINE-UP:**
Michael Turnbull (gk), Angelo Costanzo, Dominic Longo, Pan Keun Kim, Saso Radulovic (Kris Trajanovski 64'), Royce Brownlie (John Maisano 68'), John Gibson (Christian Care 64'), Simon Bell, Brendan Renaud, Vlado Zoric, Archie Thompson

**SYDNEY OLYMPIC STARTING LINE-UP:**
Clint Bolton (gk), Paul Kohler, Scott Baillie, Ante Juric, Kresimir Marusic, Troy Halpin (Damon Collina 84'), George Goutzioulis (Nick Carle 76'), Greg Owens (Peter Zorbas 40'), Elias Augerinos, Pablo Cardozo, Andrew Packer

## MAJOR SEMI FINAL (1ST LEG)

*George Souris of the Wolves contests the ball against Vaughan Coveny of South Melbourne.*

**Win Stadium, Sunday 11th May 2001**
**WOLLONGONG WOLVES 2**
(Saso Petrovski 6',
Stuart Young 83' pen)
**SOUTH MELBOURNE 1**
(Con Boutsianis 47'+)
**Half-Time score:** 1-1
**Attendance:** 11,201
**Ron Corry (Wollongong Wolves coach):**
"I'm happy with any result we get against South Melbourne ... I know that goals are different but then again we've worked well in the week and we'll go down there next week and take it to them."
**Mike Petersen (South Melbourne coach):**
"I mean to keep things in perspective, we're at half time in the fixture and we've got an away goal, they've got to come to Bob Jane next week so, it'll be alright ."
**WOLLONGONG WOLVES STARTING LINE-UP:**
Dean Anastasiadis (gk), George Souris, Alvin Ceccoli, Robert Stanton (David Cervinski 57'), Matthew Horsley, Paul Reid, Saso Petrovski, Stuart Young, Scott Chipperfield, David Huxley, Ben Blake
**SOUTH MELBOURNE STARTING LINE-UP:**
Michael Petkovic (gk), Steve Iosifidis (Goran Lozanovski 45'), Fausto De Amicis, Mehmet Durakovic, Steve Panopoulos, Vaughan Coveny (Vas Kalogeracos 57'), Paul Trimboli (Andy Vlahos 45'), Con Boutsianis, Zeljko Susa, Patrick Kisnorbo, Simon Colosimo

## MAJOR SEMI FINAL (2ND LEG)

*Wollongong celebrate a birth into the Grand Final.*

**20 May 2001 Major Semi Final (2nd Leg)**
**SOUTH MELBOURNE 1**
(Vaughan Coveny 67')
**WOLLONGONG WOLVES 2**
(Matt Horsley 50', Saso Petrovski 69')
**Half-Time score:** 0-0
**Attendance:** 10,113
**Ron Corry (Wollongong Wolves coach):** "It was a terrific result, we didn't come here to lose or play defensive football, we just came here to attack and the boys managed to restrict South Melbourne well."
**Mike Petersen (South Melbourne coach):** "I'm not disappointed, I'll stick by the boys and after a great season, the boys are entitled to an ordinary day... afterall, this was our first home loss for the season."
**SOUTH MELBOURNE STARTING LINE UP:**
Michael Petkovic (gk), Steve Iosifidis, Fausto De Amicis, Mehmet Durakovic, Steve Panopoulos, Paul Trimboli (Vas Kalogeracos 67'), Con Boutsianis, Andy Vlahos, Goran Lozanovski (John Anastasiadis 73'), Zeljko Susa (Vaughan Coveny 60'), Simon Colosimo
**WOLLONGONG WOLVES STARTING LINE UP:**
Dean Anastasiadis (gk), George Souris, Alvin Ceccoli, David Cervinski, Matthew Horsley, Paul Reid, Saso Petrovski, Stuart Young, Scott Chipperfield (Robert Stanton 80'), David Huxley, Ben Blake





## PRELIMINARY FINAL

*Sydney Olympic's Scott baillie is tackled by the Knights Adrian Cervinski.*

**20 May 2001 Minor Semi Final**
**SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1**
(Ante Juric 68')
**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 0**
Half-Time score: 0-0
Attendance: 7,649

**Branko Culina (Sydney Olympic coach):** "Today there was again a lot of pressure on us, everyone expected us to win and we had the opposition who did their homework on us and tried to nullify us, stop us from playing football ... but we will take this win today."

**Andrew Marth (Melbourne Knights coach):** "We are disappointed we did not win tonight, as we all believed we could have gone a lot further in the finals ... I thought tonight we outplayed Sydney Olympic and were unlucky to go down in the end."

**SYDNEY OLYMPIC STARTING LINE-UP:**
Clint Bolton (gk), Paul Kohler, Scott Baillie, Ante Juric, Kresimir Marusic, Troy Halpin, Damon Collina (Damon Collina 46'), George Goutzioulis, Elias Augerinos, Pablo Cardozo (Dylan MacAllister 88'), Andrew Packer

**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS STARTING LINE-UP:**
Lupce Acevski (gk), Rody Vargas, Saso Ognenovski, Joel Porter, Ramsford Banini, Alex Kiratzoglou, Andy Vargas (Dragi Nastevski 13'), Toto Da Costa, Steve Horvat, Adrian Cervinski, Ivan Jolic

## PRELIMINARY FINAL

*Steve Panopoulas and Paul Trimpoli celebrate the Preliminary Final Win.*

**27 May 2001 Preliminary Final**
**SOUTH MELBOURNE 2**
(Con Boutsianis 23', Zeljko Susa 67')
**SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0**
Half-Time score: 1-0
Attendance: 6,664
**Mike Petersen (South Melbourne coach):** "We brought ourselves a ticket to the grand final... the maturity of the team showed in the way they put the team before the individual."
**Branko Culina (Sydney Olympic coach)**: "We had some excellent chances... they were the best team and they deserved to win today."
**SOUTH MELBOURNE STARTING LINE UP:**
Michael Petkovic (gk), Steve Iosifidis, Fausto De Amicis, Mehmet Durakovic, Steve Panopoulos (Paul Trimboli 46'), Vaughan Coveny (John Anastasiadis 82'), Con Boutsianis, Andy Vlahos, Vas Kalogeracos (Goran Lozanovski 65'), Zeljko Susa, Simon Colosimo
**SYDNEY OLYMPIC STARTING LINE UP:**
Clint Bolton (gk), Paul Kohler, Scott Baillie, Ante Juric, Kresimir Marusic (Dylan Macallister 67'), Troy Halpin, George Goutzioulis (Peter Zorbas 78'), Elias Augerinos, Pablo Cardozo, Andrew Packer, Nick Carle (Anthony Doumanis 67')

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# WOLLONGONG VS SOUTH MELBOURNE

# Theatre of Dreams

PAUL TRIMBOLI OF SOUTH MELBOURNE AND STUART YOUNG OF WOLLONGONG WOLVES DISPLAY THE NSL CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY

SOUTH Melbourne won the league by eight points, beating grand final opponents Wollongong twice in the process.
But it is still difficult to make a genuine case for them winning the Championship with or without the dynamic Scott Chipperfield.
Wollongong, while having a slight weakness in defence, seem to have all the ingredients necessary to claim a second consecutive title.
The Lakers are a compact, talented side, but lack a cutting edge in front of goal that has been the Wolves' trademark.

A massive 80 goals speaks volumes for their sharpness in and around the box.
The pack of Sasa Petrovski (18), Scott Chipperfield (17) and Stuart Young (13) amassed 48 goals collectively to puncture the title and finals ambitions of many would-be contenders.
It's as simple as it is lethal.

Wingbacks Dino Mennillo and Matt Horsley burst forward down the left and right respectively, Paul Reid works tirelessly in the middle of the park, while Robbie Middleby will come into the side to fill the void left by Chipperfield.
And Petrovski and Young are always ready to feed on curling crosses or snaffle the crumbs in a goalmouth melee.
Young believes Middleby for Chipperfield will be a seamless change, with the former's pace adding a dimension to the attack Wollongong lacked in their two semi-final clashes.
Young says Chipperfield had a deeper role in the semi-finals, while Middleby's pace will be used to expose South Melbourne at the back.

"We have too much firepower, even without Scotty in the side," he says.
While South accounted for the Wolves 4-2 and 1-0 in the regular season, Wollongong denied the Lakers a 'home' final advantage by brushing them aside in the second semi-final with successive 2-1 results in Sydney and Melbourne.
Aside from a glitch in Auckland in round 28, the last time the hosts were beaten was four rounds earlier to South at WIN Stadium.
They stormed home to claim second place ahead of Glory with a 3-1 win over preliminary finalists Sydney Olympic before white-washing Northern Spirit 4-0 and Adelaide 6-2.

TODAY'S GAME

# Who will take the Honours?

# WOLLONGONG VS SOUTH MELBOURNE

## Who Will Take The Honours?

Coincidentally, South amassed a dozen goals in their final two games, beating the Kingz 6-1 and Spirit 6-2 with the league title already sewn up.

Wollongong were desperate for goals and points to catch Perth and their disciplined destruction of these sides was carried over in the semi-finals, in which they gave South a double dose of headache tablets.

But to win, the league's best attack must first compromise the competition's most misely defence, which will almost certainly feature veteran Fausto DeAmicis, who expects a different result this time to claim his fifth champions' medal.

He says South have the NSL's best blend of experience, with most players having played in a grand final.

Indeed, he was part of the Lakers victories of 1997/98 and 1998/99 as well as the Knights double in 1993/94 and 94/95.

"We've got strengths all around the park, experienced and skilful players," he says.

"We're a very well balanced side technically and that's the secret."
However, he was not doubting the Wolves pedigree and accepts this gave could as easily be decided by the toss of the coin.

"We have both been very consistent and very powerful throughout the season.

"It could come down to who's lucky in shooting or unlucky in conceding a goal."

DeAmicis is likely to play a key role in South's success or failure, having the marking job on dangerous Wollongong skipper Matt Horsley, a central figure in their come-from-behind penalty shoot-out victory over Perth Glory in last season's finale at Subiaco Oval.

Contain him and the Lakers will be halfway towards claiming the championship, let him get loose and they may as well inscribe the name Wollongong on the trophy.

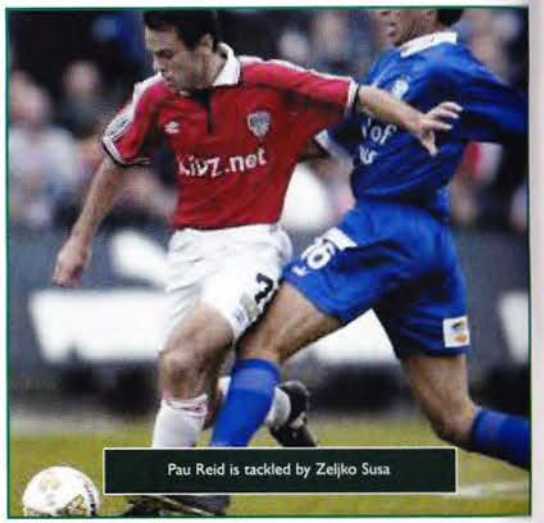
"Matt is very inspirational and a great runner," DeAmicis says.

"We've had some great tussles over the years.

"One to watch out for is Reid, in the midfield and then there's the two strikers up front.

"We will mark them all closely, but allow just enough room so that when we get the ball we can get away."."

Mike Petersen & Con Boutsianis happy to be in the Grand Final


Pau Reid is tackled by Zeljko Susa

Wollongono Wolves acknowledge the crowd

South Melbourne players celebrating last Sundays win

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Coach's Mike Peterson and Ron Corry with the Grand Fianl Trophy

# HEAD TO HEAD

| WOLLONGONG WOLVES V SOTH MELBOURNE | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Season** | **In Wollongong** | **In Melbourne** |
| 1981 | 1-1 | 1-0 South Mel |
| 1982 | 1-0 Wollongong | 3-0 South Mel |
| 1983 | 2-2 | 1-0 Wollongo |
| 1988 | 4-0 Wollongong | 2-1 South Mel |
| 1989 | 4-1 South Mel | 2-0 Wollongo |
| 1989/90 | 2-0 South Mel | 0-0 |
| 1990/91 | 4-1 South Mel | 0-0 |
| 1991/92 | 0-0 | 1-0 South Mel |
| 1992/93 | 2-1 South Mel | 2-1 South Mel |
| 1993/94 | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| 1994/95 | 3-2 Wollongong | 3-1 South Mel |
| 1995/96 | 2-0 Wollongong | 6-0 South Mel |
| 1995/96 | 2-1 South Mel | |
| 1996/97 | 1-1 | 3-0 South Mel |
| 1997/98 | 2-1 South Mel | 3-2 South Mel |
| 1998/99 | 2-1 Wollongong | 3-1 South Mel |
| 1999/00 | 2-1 Wollongong | 1-1 |
| 2000/01 | 1-0 South Mel | 4-2 South Mel |

| Summary - ALL GAMES | |
|---|---|
| Total games played | 37 |
| South Melbourne wins | 18 |
| Wollongong Wolves wins | 10 |
| Draws | 9 |
| South Melbourne goals | 59 |
| Wollongong Wolves goals | 39 |
| **Summary - FINALS MATCHES** | |
| Total games played | 2 |
| Wollongong Wolves wins | 2 |
| South Melbourne wins | 0 |
| Draws | 0 |
| Wollongong Wolves goals | 4 |
| South Melbourne goals | 2 |

**FINALS SERIES**

2000/01 2-1 Wollongong (in Wol) - Major semi final - 1st leg
1989/90 2-1 Wollongong (in Mel) - Major semi final - 2nd leg



## SPORTSMASTER PREVIEW - GRAND FINAL

### Wollongong Wolves vs South Melbourne

Sunday 3rd June, 2001 - 12:00pm
Parramatta Stadium, Sydney
Statistics supplied by SportsMaster'

| Overall (29) | Home (15) | | Overall (29) | Away (15) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 75 | 45 | Goals | 65 | 27 |
| 443 | 233 | Goal attempts | 452 | 197 |
| 263 | 142 | Shots on target | 271 | 126 |
| 71 | 36 | Blocked shots | 64 | 36 |
| 6 | 5 | Penalties scored | 4 | 0 |
| 11 | 5 | Shots against woodwork | 11 | 5 |
| 221 | 123 | Corners | 200 | 84 |
| 608 | 313 | Total crosses | 732 | 288 |
| 214 | 107 | Successful crosses | 286 | 111 |
| 420 | 216 | Fouls | 387 | 198 |
| 65 | 35 | Offsides | 168 | 82 |
| 39 | 18 | Yellow cards | 38 | 27 |
| 5 | 3 | Red cards | 3 | 3 |
| 42 | 22 | Goals conceded | 28 | 17 |

## KEY STATS

Statistics supplied by SportsMaster'

| Wollongong Wolves | | South Melbourne |
|---|---|---|
| | **Attack** | |
| 75 | Goals Scored | 65 |
| 443 | Goal Attempts | 452 |
| 1.7% | Success Rate % | 14.4% |
| 263 | Goal Attempts on Target | 271 |
| 59.4% | Success Rate % | 60% |
| 608 | Total Crosses | 732 |
| 214 | Successful Crosses | 286 |
| 35.2% | Success Rate % | 39.1% |
| | **Defence** | |
| 42 | Goals Conceded | 28 |
| 1.4 | Average Goals Conceded per Game | 1 |

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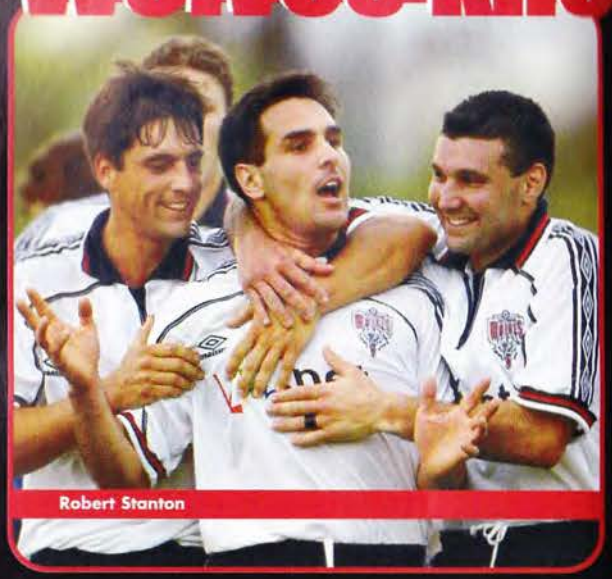
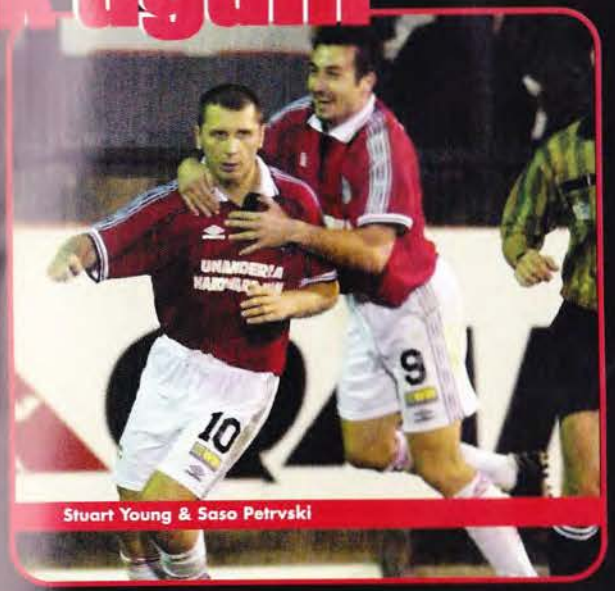
MATTHEW HORSLEY CELEBRATES LAST SEASON'S NSL CHAMPIONSHIP

# Wolves knock again

Dean Anastasiadis & Matthew Horsley


Robert Stanton


Stuart Young & Saso Petrvski

Ben Blake

David Cervinski

THE Wolves have again shown this season you just can't keep them away from the door.

It came ajar when Glory lost to Parramatta with two rounds remaining and Wollongong piled on the goals to overcome a three-point and six-goal deficit to power into a second semi-final place ahead of Perth.

They then dealt swiftly with premiers South Melbourne, who have ambitions of reclaiming their crown and dethroning the New South Welshmen in an all-action but bloodless coup.

It's been a long campaign for the Australian champions, their domestic campaign being interrupted by what proved to be an unnecessary qualification for the World Club Championship.

Wollongong completed the formalities with a string of cricket-score victories against lowly opposition on ordinary pitches in Papua New Guinea before FIFA ultimately cancelled the competition.

Not only did it seriously threaten the defence of their title, but the cancellation has cost them $5million in appearance money.

That's enough cash to keep top Australian clubs in clover for several seasons and with some of their stars coming out of contract, it just may have given Wollongong the money to keep their team together.

They have often provided the spark on lifeless days and killer blows in all-action affairs, such as the home and away semi-final clashes with the Lakers, which the Wolves claimed 2-1 on each occasion.

Wollongong were a bit of a surprise packet last season, but their 72 goals in 34 matches were testament to their attacking flair, which brings into perspective their astonishing 80 goals in just 30 games this season.

Prolific is the only description for their goalscoring prowess, with marksmen such as Young, Saso Petrovski and Chipperfield the scourge of defences from Perth to Auckland.

Amazingly, the Wolves scored just 12 goals in the opening seven rounds, which included a 3-2 loss at home to Canberra.

It's quite incredible they netted a further 68 goals - virtually the sum of last season's total - in the remaining 23 home and away games, a strike rate of virtually three goals per match.

And while their defence has had the odd off day, defenders such as Robert Stanton, David Cervinski and Ben Blake keep Dean Anastasiadis well protected.

And all this with a new coach at the helm - Ron Corry having replaced championship boss Nick Theodorakopoulos - and the distraction of the World Club Championship qualifiers.

## THE HISTORY OF WOLLONGONG WOLVES

The Illawarra region, located on the New South Wales south coast, has a long and colourful soccer history. The area traditionally thrived on the bustling activity of coal mines which spurned many varied and popular soccer clubs from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries. The long-established soccer community only strengthened with the advent of mass immigration into the region in the decades immediately following the second world war.

South Coast United, predecessors to the Wollongong Wolves, played in front of large crowds in the NSW state league in the 1960s before disappearing in the mid-70s. The Wolves entered the national league in 1981. After a bright start to its NSL existence, incorporating an undefeated streak for its first eight games in 1981, and a third placing in the 1982 season, performances fizzled to the extent that the Wolves were relegated in 1986.

They returned to the national stage in 1988 to take out the minor premiership. Two consecutive losses in the finals series, firstly to Sydney United and then to eventual champions Marconi, destroyed the dream a 1988 grand final berth.

Throughout the early nineties, the Wolves established a rugged team relying particularly on a steadfast defence. Despite never being big money spenders throughout the decade the club never struggled on-field, and reached the NSL finals several times throughout the nineties. The team has in recent years developed a much more flamboyant attacking style, which has obviously reaped rewards as proved by the team reaching the grand final for the second time in succession.

Strong and sensible management, a traditionally steady on-field performance and impressive local media coverage has ensured a high level of support for the club from the Illawarra region. The heart-stopping 1999/2000 grand final victory after being down three-nil away to Perth Glory, and the continuation of a relentless goal-scoring run in season 2000/01 has since made the Wolves the team of choice for many more Australians.

## WOLLONGONG WOLVES NSL RECORD

| Season No. | Year | Position on ladder | No. teams in league | Top scorer [goals] (inc finals) | Coach(es) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1981 | 11th | 16 | Jim McBreen [7] | Ken Morton |
| 2 | 1982 | 3rd | 16 | Phil O'Connor [16] | Willie Wallace, Chris Dunleavy, Ken Morton |
| 3 | 1983 | 15th | 16 | Roy Cotton, Phil O'Connor [12] | Willie Wallace |
| 4 | 1984 | 12th | 12x2 | Peter Kotamanidis [8] | Adrian Alston |
| 5 | 1985 | 10th | 12x2 | Pat Brodnik [6] | Adrian Alston |
| 6 | 1986 | 8th | 12x2 | Robert Giraldi [7] | John Fleming |
| 7 | 1988 | 1st | 14 | Randall Easthorpe [9] | John Fleming |
| 8 | 1989 | 9th | 14 | Randall Easthorpe [6] | John Fleming, Doug Collins |
| 9 | 1989/90 | 11th | 14 | Pat Brodnik [9] | David Ratcliffe |
| 10 | 1990/91 | 9th | 14 | Pat Brodnik, Richard Lloyd [5] | David Ratcliffe |
| 11 | 1991/92 | 5th | 14 | Claudio Cellini [5] | David Ratcliffe |
| 12 | 1992/93 | 4th | 14 | Charlie Yankos [7] | David Ratcliffe |
| 13 | 1993/94 | 11th | 14 | Scott Ollerenshaw [6] | David Ratcliffe |
| 14 | 1994/95 | 8th | 13 | Vaughan Coveny [12] | David Ratcliffe |
| 15 | 1995/96 | 11th | 12 | Mario Jermen, Tony Perinich [9] | Berti Mariani, Nick Theodorakopoulos |
| 16 | 1996/97 | 10th | 14 | Matthew Horsley [7] | Nick Theodorakopoulos |
| 17 | 1997/98 | 6th | 14 | Scott Chipperfield [13] | Nick Theodorakopoulos |
| 18 | 1998/99 | 10th | 15 | Anthony Surjan [8] | Nick Theodorakopoulos |
| 19 | 1999/00* | 2nd | 16 | Stuart Young [19] | Nick Theodorakopoulos |
| 20 | 2000/01 | 2nd | 15 | Saso Petrovski [20] | Ron Corry |

* denotes championship





| Date | Opponents | H/A | F-A | Att | Daniel BELTRAME 1 | George SOURIS 2 | Alvin CECCOLI 3 | Robert STANTON 4 | David CERVINSKI 5 | Matthew HORSLEY 6 | Paul REID 7 | Max NICHOLSON 8 | Saso PETROVSKI 9 | Stuart YOUNG 10 | Scott CHIPPERFIELD 11 | Paul HARRIES 12 | George NOHRA 13 | Jay LUCAS 14 | David HUXLEY 15 | Ben BLAKE 17 | Paul O'GRADY 18 | Steven DIMITRIEVSKI 19 | Grant BARLOW 20 | Frank BARILA 21 | Dino MENNILLO 23 | Dean ANASTASIADIS 26 | Robbie MIDDLEBY 27 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sat 14 Oct | Perth Glory | H | 1-1 | 5443 | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■1 | ■ | ■ | | | | ■Y | ■ | | | | | ■Y | | |
| Sun 22 | Carlton | A | 1-0 | 1446 | ■ | ■ | | ■1 | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■Y | ■ | ■Y1 | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■Y | | |
| Sat 28 | Marconi Stallions | H | 1-0 | 4011 | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■Y | ■ | ■Y | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ | | |
| Sun 5 Nov | Melbourne Knights | A | 2-1 | 4863 | ■ | ■Y | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■Y | | |
| Sat 11 | Brisbane Strikers | H | 2-1 | 4075 | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■1 | ■Y | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ | | |
| Sun 19 | Parramatta Power | A | 2-0 | 4138 | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | ■Y1 | ■ | ■Y | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | | ■R | | |
| Fri 24 | Canberra Cosmos | H | 2-3 | 3876 | | ■Y | | ■ | ■Y | ■Y | ■ | | ■R1 | ■ | | | ■ | | ■1 | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | | |
| Fri 1 Dec | Newcastle United | A | 3-1 | 8257 | | ■ | ■ | ■2 | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ | ■1 | | | | ■1 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | |
| Sun 10 | South Melbourne | A | 2-4 | 7589 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | | |
| Sat 16 | Sydney United | H | 2-0 | 3339 | | ■ | ■1 | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | ■ | ■Y | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | | |
| Sat 23 | Sydney Olympic | H | 2-2 | 4263 | | ■Y | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■1 | ■1 | | | | ■Y | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ |
| Fri 29 | Eastern Pride | H | 4-2 | 4107 | | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■1 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■3 | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ |
| Fri 5 Jan | Football Kingz | H | 1-1 | 4077 | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | | ■R | | ■ |
| Sat 27 | Perth Glory | A | 1-1 | 16019 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■1 | ■Y | | | ■Y | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Sat 10 Feb | Marconi Stallions | A | 3-1 | 3712 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■2 | ■Y | ■1 | | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Sat 17 | Melbourne Knights | H | 5-2 | 5459 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■Y | ■ | | ■2 | ■2 | ■1 | | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ |
| Fri 23 | Brisbane Strikers | A | 4-2 | 2457 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | ■1 | ■1 | ■1 | | | | ■Y | ■ | | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ |
| Sun 27 | Northern Spirit | H | 2-2 | 5575 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■Y | ■ | ■ | | | ■1 | | ■1 | | ■ | ■Y | ■ | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Fri 2 Mar | Parramatta Power | H | 5-1 | 4112 | | ■Y | ■1 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■3 | ■ | | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ | | | | ■ | ■Y |
| Sat 10 | Canberra Cosmos | A | 1-2 | 2593 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■1 | ■Y | | | | | ■ | | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| Fri 16 | Newcastle United | H | 9-4 | 4777 | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | ■3 | ■1 | ■2 | | | | ■ | ■1 | | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ |
| Fri 23 | South Melbourne | H | 0-1 | 8485 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■Y | ■ | ■Y | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■Y |
| Sun 25 | Adelaide City Force | A | 1-1 | 3042 | ■ | ■Y | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■1 |
| Sat 1 Apr | Sydney United | A | 1-1 | 4235 | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■Y | | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■1 | ■ | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Sat 7 | Sydney Olympic | H | 3-1 | 7988 | | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | ■1 | ■ | ■ | ■1 | ■ | | ■ | | | ■Y | ■ | | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| Sat 14 | Eastern Pride | A | 3-0 | forfeit | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fri 20 | Football Kingz | A | 2-3 | 3616 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■1 | ■ | ■ | ■R1 | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■Y | | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| Wed 25 | Northern Spirit | A | 4-0 | 2849 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | ■ | ■2 | | ■1 | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| Sun 29 | Adelaide City Force | H | 6-2 | 6128 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | | ■4 | | | ■ | ■ | ■Y | | | | | | ■ | ■R |
| Fri 11 May | South Melbourne | H | 2-1 | 11201 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | ■1 | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ | |
| Sun 20 | South Melbourne | A | 2-1 | 10113 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■1 | ■ | ■ | ■1 | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■Y | ■ | | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| | Wollongong Wolves Appearances | | | | 16 | 113 | 132 | 110 | 56 | 283 | 82 | 8 | 80 | 61 | 131 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 38 | 7 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 33 | 13 | 53 |
| | Wollongong Wolves Goals | | | | 0 | 1 | 16 | 5 | 3 | 36 | 12 | 0 | 39 | 33 | 50 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| | NSL Appearances | | | | 16 | 122 | 132 | 287 | 209 | 283 | 82 | 8 | 80 | 61 | 131 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 97 | 38 | 7 | 2 | 37 | 1 | 150 | 183 | 86 |
| | NSL Goals | | | | 0 | 1 | 16 | 8 | 15 | 36 | 12 | 0 | 39 | 33 | 50 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 0 | 4 |

■ = Played ■Y = Yellow Card ■R = Red Card ■ = Substitute ■1 = Goals Scored ■ = Substituted by

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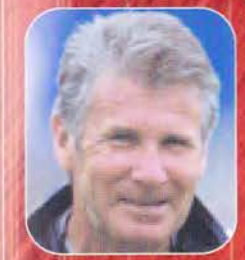
## Coach

### Ron Corry



Born July 21 1941, Ron Corry was raised in Sydney and climbed through the junior ranks at Canterbury. In these pre-NSL years the goalkeeper played with Canterbury in the strong NSW state league and by 1973 had represented the Socceroos 33 times. His playing career also included stints at state league clubs Pan Hellenic, Sydney United and Manly, and he became one of the oldest ever NSL players when he filled in at Marconi for six matches in the 1980 and 1981 NSL seasons. Corry was the assistant and goalkeeping coach at Sydney United throughout the early 1990s before moving to the Wolves in 1996 to continue those roles. He took Wollongong's senior post almost by default after the position became unexpectedly vacant in mid-2000 and in just his first full season as NSL coach he is a prime candidate for NSL coach of the year.

NSL coaching statistics

| Seasons | Club | Games | W-D-L |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1989 | Sydney United | 03 | 01-01-01 |
| 1989/90 | Sydney United | 09 | 02-01-06 |
| 2000/01 | Wollongoon Wolves | 30 | 17-08-05 |
| TOTAL | | 42 | 20-10-12 |

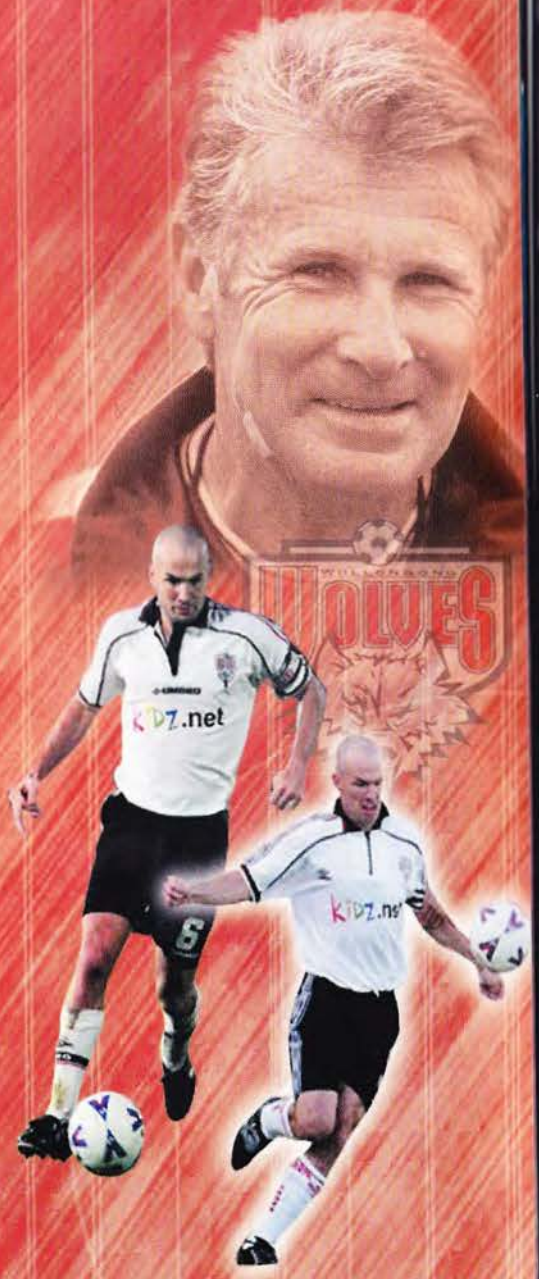
## Captain

### 06. MATTHEW HORSLEY

Age: 28
Position: Midfielder

Matt Horsley could have retired in 1999 at age 26 already regarded as the most respected Wollongong born and bred soccer players of all time. He had by the end of the 98/99 season smashed the NSL appearance record at the Wollongong Wolves, with 217 games under his belt – 52 games more than previous record holder Richard Lloyd.

But then came the year 2000. The Balgownie junior was now a senior Socceroo, and proudly entered the representative ranks debuting against 1994 World Cup semi-finalists Bulgaria in March. By June his beloved Wolves had captured the domestic spotlight by reaching the NSL grand final for the first time. His 68th minute goal in the 1999/2000 season climax at Subiaco Oval spurred his troops no end and the rest of 'that' game as they say is history. Season 2000/01 saw more of the same from the honest and industrious midfielder with another championship seeming well within reach.



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# WOLLONGONG WOLVES Player Profiles

## 1. DANIEL BELTRAME

**Age:** 25
**Position:** Goalkeeper
Moved from the South Australia state league to the Wolves in 1998 initially as a backup to Les Pogliacomi. Played six full matches in 1998/99 and four in 1999/2000. Started as first choice this season, playing the first five matches in an undefeated streak which saw the Wolves share first position on the ladder after round five.

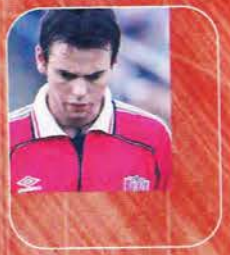
## 2. GEORGE SOURIS

**Age:** 31
**Position:** Defender
Played with Bankstown City (NSW State League) and Parramatta Eagles (NSL and State League) before linking with the Wolves in 1997/98. Has since missed just ten matches, due to either suspension and a groin and quad injury suffered towards the end of the 1999/2000 season. Wolves player of the year in 1998/99.

## 3. ALVIN CECCOLI

**Age:** 26
**Position:** Defender
Of San Marino parentage, the left-footed defender has played in a variety of positions at the Wolves. Joined the club in 1995/96 and has been a consistent first choice player since, aside from a stint overseas in 1999 with Greek super club AEK Athens. Attained Socceroo honours in 1998, playing four matches in the Oceania Nations Cup. Formerly at Sydney Olympic.

## 4. ROBERT STANTON



**Age:** 29
**Position:** Defender
The Wolves' most experienced NSL campaigner should next season become one of the rare breed to play 300 NSL games before reaching 30 years old. After graduating from the AIS his NSL career commenced in 1990 at Sydney United. He moved to Marconi in 1995 and joined the Wolves in 1997. Played in the 1991 Under 20 World Youth Cup, where Australia finished fourth.

## 5. DAVID CERVINSKI

**Age:** 30
**Position:** Defender
Reliable and a very strong player whose NSL career has already taken him to five grand finals. Making his NSL debut at the Melbourne Knights in 1993/94, competed in the 1994 (loss), 1995 (win) and 1996 (win) grand finals with the Knights. Moved to Carlton in 1997 and made a grand final appearance with the club at their first attempt. Joined the Wolves in 1998.

## 7. PAUL REID

**Age:** 21
**Position:** Midfielder
Since making his debut for the club at the start of last season has missed just a handful of matches due only to suspension (two games), and an ankle injury (four) in the middle of last season. Will always be remembered for his contribution to the 1999/2000 grand final win, his 89th minute equalising goal securing extra time, and his conclusive penalty kick in the shoot-out.

## 8. MAX NICHOLSON

**Age:** 29
**Position:** Midfielder
Born in Leeds, England and played over 100 first grade games in England with Doncaster Rovers (1990-91), Hereford United (1992-94), Torquay United (1994) and Scunthorpe (1994-96). Then spent four seasons in Singapore notching over 30 goals for Woodlands Wellington and earning that club's player of the year award. Signed by the Wolves in late 2000.

## 9. SASHO PETROVSKI

**Age:** 26
**Position:** Striker
Like many of his Wollongong teammates recruited by the Wolves from the NSW State League, where he featured with Bankstown City and Parramatta Eagles. Slowly established himself at the Wolves through the 1998/99 season before coming of age in 1999/2000 when he scored 14 goals. The form striker of the NSL with 17 goals in his last 15 matches.

## 10. STUART YOUNG

**Age:** 28
**Position:** Striker
England born and a product of the Arsenal youth system. Played in the English leagues with Hull City, Northampton Town, Scarborough and Scunthorpe between 1991 and 1996, then moved to the Singapore first division. Considering players who have played over 50 NSL games, his current goals per game ratio (54.1 per cent) is bettered by only one other player (David Seal, 54.5 per cent).

## 14. JAY LUCAS

**Age:** 16
**Position:** Striker
Became the fifth youngest ever NSL player when he made his debut at age 15 years 282 days old in round two this season. Already signed up by club Southampton, and set to travel to join the English club over the next year or so. A vital component of the Joeys squad who have qualified for the Under 17 World Youth Championships to be played later this year.

## 15. DAVID HUXLEY

**Age:** 24
**Position:** Midfielder
Joined the Wolves from NSW State League club Parramatta Eagles in 1997. Voted Wolves rookie of the year in 1997/98. Has worked his way to becoming a regular starter for the team this season after three seasons mainly used as a substitute, and has in fact missed just two games this season – one through suspension the other due to injury.

## 16. BEN BLAKE

**Age:** 25
**Position:** Defender
A huge rise to prominence this season, after being used sparingly as a substitute in his first season for the Wolves in 1999/2000. The former Singapore league player has not missed a minute for the Wolves in 2000/2001, incurring just one yellow card in 45 hours of NSL football this season. Can also play at sweeper, wing-back or midfield.





## 23. DINO MENNILLO

**Age:** 25
**Position:** Midfielder
Raised in Port Pirie South Australia and played 102 games for Adelaide City between 1995 and 1999 before moving to New Zealand's Kingz FC. A contractual dispute at the Kingz midway through the 1999/2000 saw him quickly taken by the Wolves where he made an instant impression scoring four goals in his first six games, despite not playing as an out-and-out striker.

## 26. DEAN ANASTASIADIS

**Age:** 30
**Position:** Goalkeeper
Signed from Carlton in December, and whose experience quickly gained him first-choice status at the Wolves. Has extensive NSL experience, debuting with South Melbourne in 1992/93 and staying with that club for the following four seasons. A brief stint with Collingwood in 1996/97 was followed by three and a bit seasons with Carlton. Played in Carlton's losing 1997/98 grand final team.

## 27. ROBERT MIDDLEBY

**Age:** 25
**Position:** Midfielder
After graduating from the AIS in 1993 joined the Newcastle Breakers for a season, then moved to Wollongong for two seasons. Played in the 1995 World Youth Cup finals in Qatar. Moved to Germany in 1996 and stayed there for three seasons, before rejoining the NSL with newcomers Kingz FC in 1999/2000. Transferred to the Wolves in late 2000.

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SOUTH MELBOURNE JUBILATION AFTER WINNING THE NSL CHAMPIONSHIP AGAINST SYDNEY UNITED AT OLYMPIC PARK MELBOURNE IN 1999

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CELEBRATION AFTER WINNING THE 1999 NSL GRAND FINAL

# South look north

SOUTH Melbourne bounced back from an indifferent 1999-2000 to run away with the Premiership this season before succumbing to second-placed Wollongong in the second semi-final.

The Lakers lost both legs 2-1 and their first game at Bob Jane Stadium in more than a year before bouncing back to eliminate Sydney Olympic in the preliminary final.

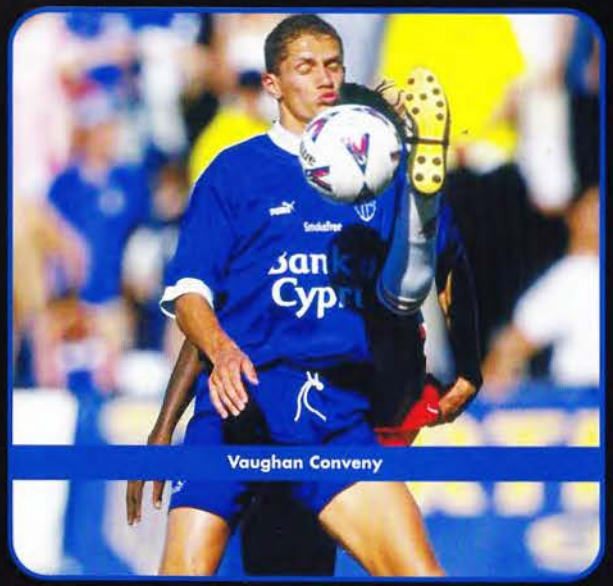
They now look north to claim what they perceive as theirs south.

South won 19 of their 30 matches, three more than the Wolves and Perth Glory, drew six and lost only three in a campaign of remarkable consistency.

And while the Melbourne club's huge 70-goal haul was bettered by both those sides, neither could compare in the defensive stakes, the Lakers conceding just 24, with four slipping past them in one forgettable day at Knights Stadium.

Fausto De Amicis

Andrew Vlahos


Vaughan Conveny

South Melbourne were irresistible two seasons ago when they beat Sydney United in the grand final to march into the World Club Championship.

However, despite all the rhetoric coming out of Bob Jane, it was obvious qualifying for and then competing in Brazil sapped the legs and minds of the Aussie champs, who failed to even make the domestic finals last season, finishing a lowly 10th.

Highly regarded coach Ange Postecoglou departed for national duties and in came Mike Petersen, by some accounts a surprise choice with Wolves boss Nick Theodorakopoulos the big favourite.

But South plumbed for their former player and after dominating the home and away rounds it would seem that faith was well entrusted.

However, in the closing stages it was obvious the Wolves were hitting peak form after a slow start, some indifferent results no doubt due to their own World Club Championship qualifiers.

There can be little argument that these are the best-performed sides over the season.

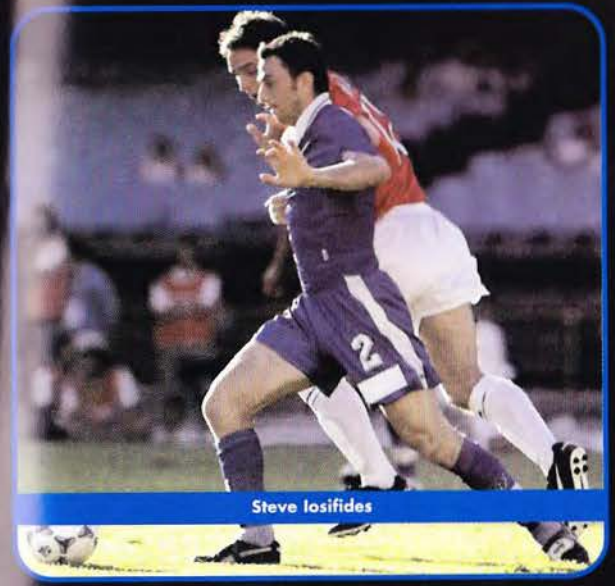
And they turned on two battles royal in the second semi-final.

Now they have the chance to do it again and avenge those two stinging defeats.

Petersen certainly has the class at his disposal to do as Wollongong did last year, storming back from a second semi-final defeat to claim the Champions trophy in hostile territory.

Con Boutsianis, Andrew Vlahos, Michael Petkovic, Vaughan Coveny, Fausto De Amicis and Simon Colosimo are among the most combative, reliable and destructive players in the league.

Boutsianis, especially, can turn a game off his own boot and Petersen will no doubt look to him to provide some extra spark if they are to reclaim their crown.


Steve Iosifides

Simon Colosimo

## THE HISTORY OF SOUTH MELBOURNE

The year 1959 saw the amalgamation of three strong Melbourne clubs - Hellenic, Yarra Park and South Melbourne United. Of these clubs it appears that South Melbourne United was the longest established, formed in the early 1930s.

In 1960, their first year of competition, South Melbourne Hellas won the Victorian first division north championship - dropping only one competition point in the process, scoring 79 goals and conceding just 11. By 1962 Hellas won their first of seven Victorian state league titles before the club jetted off to join the newly established national league in 1977.

After an overall slow first eight years in the NSL, Souths won the 1984 championship, winning out over Sydney Olympic 2-1 in both legs of the 1984 national grand final. This was the first time in the NSL that the grand final winners were declared champions - in previous seasons the 'minor premiers' were the champion team.

A grand final victory again ensued in the 1990/91 season when 23,318 gathered to watch one of the most enthralling national league grand final ever played. Here Souths defeated Melbourne Knights - albeit on penalties - after two hours of intensive on field action had resulted in a pulsating 2-2 draw.

A move to the impressive Bob Jane Stadium in late 1995 injected new life into the club, and the 'seven year itch' - coined after Souths won championships in 1984 and 1991 - held when they won the 1998 grand final. In this game a dramatic albeit controversial Con Boutsianis goal in the 86th minute set South Melbourne to a memorable 2-1 victory over Carlton. The club followed suit in the 1999 grand finals with a 3-2 victory over Sydney United, which earned Souths a berth in the 2000 World Club Championships in Brazil.

Perhaps distracted by this placement on the world stage, the 1999/00 season saw a lapse in domestic form. But, reinvigorated by new coach Mike Petersen, South Melbourne are back to scintillating form this season.

## SOUTH MELBOURNE NSL RECORD

| Season No. | Year | Position on ladder | No. teams in league | Top scorer [goals] (inc finals) | Coach(es) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1977 | 11th | 14 | Peter Ollerton [6] | Con Xanthopoulos, Manny Poulakakis |
| 2 | 1978 | 3rd | 14 | Duncan Cummings [9] | Ted Smith, Dave MacLaren, John Margaritis |
| 3 | 1979 | 14th | 14 | Alun Evans [6] | Dave MacLaren, Duncan McKay, |
| 4 | 1980 | 3rd | 14 | Branko Buljevic [10] | John Margaritis |
| 5 | 1981 | 2nd | 16 | Alun Evans [14] | John Margaritis |
| 6 | 1982 | 6th | 16 | Charlie Egan [20] | John Margaritis, Mick Watson, Tommy Docherty |
| 7 | 1983 | 4th | 16 | Doug Brown [16] | Rale Rasic, Len McKendry |
| 8 | 1984 | 1st * | 12x2 | Doug Brown [22] | Len McKendry |
| 9 | 1985 | 1st | 12x2 | Charlie Egan [21] | Len McKendry |
| 10 | 1986 | 7th | 12x2 | Danny Crainie [6] | John Margaritis |
| 11 | 1987 | 6th | 13 | Paul Wade [8] | Brian Garvey |
| 12 | 1988 | 3rd | 14 | Angie Postecoglou, Paul Trimboli [8] | Brian Garvey |
| 13 | 1989 | 8th | 14 | Paul Trimboli [10] | Brian Garvey |
| 14 | 1989/90 | 2nd | 14 | Peter Tsolakis [13] | Ferenc Puskas |
| 15 | 1990/91 | 2nd * | 14 | Kimon Taliadoros, Paul Trimboli [9] | Ferenc Puskas |
| 16 | 1991/92 | 3rd | 14 | Kimon Taliadoros [15] | Ferenc Puskas |
| 17 | 1992/93 | 1st | 14 | Francis Awaritefe [19] | Jim Pyrgolios |
| 18 | 1993/94 | 2nd | 14 | Francis Awaritefe [11] | Jim Pyrgolios |
| 19 | 1994/95 | 6th | 13 | Ivan Kelic [15] | Frank Arok |
| 20 | 1995/96 | 8th | 12 | Vaughan Coveny [9] | Frank Arok, Angie Postecoglou |
| 21 | 1996/97 | 3rd | 14 | Paul Trimboli [9] | Angie Postecoglou |
| 22 | 1997/98 | 1st * | 14 | John Anastasiadis [12] | Angie Postecoglou |
| 23 | 1998/99 | 2nd * | 15 | Vaughan Coveny [14] | Angie Postecoglou |
| 24 | 1999/00 | 10th | 16 | Michael Curcija [19] | Angie Postecoglou |
| 25 | 2000/01 | 1st | 15 | Con Boutsianis, Andy Vlahos [13] | Mike Petersen |

* denotes championship





| Date | Opponents | H/A | F-A | Att | 1 Michael Petkovic | 2 Steve Iosifidis | 3 Fausto De Amicis | 4 Mehmet Durakovic | 5 Robert Liparoti | 6 David Clarkson | 7 Steve Panopoulos | 8 Vaughan Coveny | 9 Paul Trimboli | 10 Con Boutsianis | 11 John Anastasiadis | 12 Richard Alagich | 13 Andrew Vlahos | 14 Vas Kalogeracos | 15 Goran Lozanovski | 16 Zeljko Susa | 19 Patrick Kisnorbo | 20 Chris Jones | 21 Massimo Murdocca | 24 Nick Tolios | 25 Simon Colosimo |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fri 13 Oct | Adelaide City Force | A | 3-1 | 3625 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sat 21 " | Perth Glory | A | 0-1 | 14081 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sun 29 " | Carlton | H | 2-2 | 12652 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sat 04 Nov | Marconi Stallions | A | 1-1 | 4423 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sun 12 " | Melbourne Knights | H | 4-1 | 10623 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | |
| Sun 19 " | Brisbane Strikers | H | 3-0 | 7137 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | |
| Sun 26 " | Parramatta Power | H | 1-1 | 6803 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sat 02 Dec | Canberra Cosmos | A | 3-1 | 2619 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sun 10 " | Wollongong Wolves | H | 4-2 | 7589 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Fri 15 " | Newcastle United | A | 0-0 | 5862 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sat 23 " | Sydney United | A | 3-0 | 2230 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sat 30 " | Sydney Olympic | H | 1-0 | 14215 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sat 06 Jan | Eastern Pride | A | 0-0 | 3615 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sun 14 " | Football Kingz | H | 3-0 | 5782 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Fri 19 " | Northern Spirit | A | 2-1 | 5057 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ |
| Sun 28 " | Adelaide City Force | H | 1-0 | 6557 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Sun 04 Feb | Perth Glory | H | 1-1 | 12917 | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Bye | Carlton | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun 18 " | Marconi Stallions | H | 6-1 | 6321 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| Fri 23 " | Melbourne Knights | A | 0-4 | 7320 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| Wed 14 Mar | Brisbane Strikers | A | 2-3 | 1441 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Sun 11 " | Parramatta Power | A | 3-0 | 1722 | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Sun 18 " | Canberra Cosmos | H | 1-0 | 5028 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | ■ |
| Fri 23 " | Wollongong Wolves | A | 1-0 | 8485 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Sun 01 Apr | Newcastle United | H | 1-0 | 5567 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Wed 04 " | Sydney United | H | 3-1 | 5025 | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Wed 18 " | Sydney Olympic | A | 2-2 | 8922 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| Sun 22 " | Eastern Pride | H | 3-0 | (forfeit) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wed 25 " | Football Kingz | A | 6-1 | 8738 | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ |
| Sun 29 " | Northern Spirit | H | 6-2 | 5803 | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Fri 11 May | Wollongong Wolves | A | 1-2 | 11201 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ |
| Sun 20 " | Wollongong Wolves | H | 1-2 | 10113 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ |
| Sun 27 | Sydney Olympic | H | 2-0 | 6664 | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ |
| | South Melbourne Appearances | | | | 135 | 127 | 143 | 168 | 56 | 124 | 189 | 178 | 380 | 172 | 103 | 14 | 38 | 24 | 89 | 22 | 25 | 28 | 2 | 3 | 17 |
| | South Melbourne Goals | | | | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 23 | 50 | 106 | 61 | 31 | 0 | 15 | 6 | 15 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| | NSL Appearances | | | | 135 | 143 | 256 | 300 | 56 | 207 | 189 | 244 | 402 | 241 | 125 | 131 | 138 | 84 | 210 | 91 | 25 | 28 | 2 | 7 | 67 |
| | NSL Goals | | | | 0 | 0 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 16 | 23 | 69 | 110 | 93 | 31 | 4 | 41 | 28 | 23 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |

■ Played ■ Yellow Card ■ Red Card ■ Substitute ■ Goals Scored ■ Substituted by

## Coach

### MIKE PETERSON

Of the 116 coaches who have coached more than 20 NSL games, Mike Petersen is one of just two coaches to have won 60 per cent or more of their matches. A remarkable feat for a rookie coach. Petersen's playing days started at state league club Port Melbourne, and in an NSL career spanning 14 seasons he was with Heidelberg, Brunswick and South Melbourne, predominately in the midfield. He played 270 NSL matches in all, 171 with Souths. Socceroo honours were bestowed on Petersen 51 times, between 1988 and 1992. After an apprentice coaching stint with previous Souths coach Ange Postecoglou, and a foray in the state league coaching ranks with St Albans in 1999, he became head coach of South Melbourne in 2000.

NSL coaching statistics

| SeasonsClub | Games | W-D-L |
|---|---|---|
| 2000/01 South Melbourne | 30 | 18-07-05 |
| TOTAL NSL | 30 | 18-07-05 |

## Captain

### 9 PAUL TRIMBOLI

**Age**: 32
**Position**: Striker

It's no coincidence that the return to form of Paul Trimboli has seen a return to form of South Melbourne. Last season was the club's worst in 20 years, and the Melbourne-born striker was out of sorts, hampered with a groin injury. By the age of 18 he had represented Australia at the Schoolboy, Under 16 and Under 20 levels, not to mention a stint at the Australian Institute of Sport. By 19 he had made his full Socceroo debut and by 20 years old, had scored three goals in four matches for Australia. Sunshine George Cross introduced him to the NSL in 1987. He joined Souths the following season, and has remained there ever since. Twice NSL player of the year – a feat only matched by Frank Farina and Mark Viduka.

### 1. MICHAEL PETKOVIC

**Age:** 28
**Position:** Goalkeeper

Signed for South Melbourne in 1996. His agility and physical presence has seen him rated as Australia's best goalkeeper, winning back-to-back championships in 1997/98 and 1998/99 as well as NSL 'Goalkeeper of the Year' in 1998/99. Was awarded his first senior Socceroo cap earlier this year.

### 2. STEVE IOSIFIDIS

**Age:** 27
**Position:** Defender

Steve Iosifidis, the quiet achiever, recruited from somewhat obscurity by former coach Postecoglou, has made a name for himself for his tidy, right place, right time defending. With over almost 150 NSL games, and two championships, Iosifidis was also named South Melbourne's 1999/2000 Best & Fairest winner.

### 3. FAUSTO DE AMICIS

**Age:** 32
**Position:** Defender

His speed and mazing runs from left back have seen him represent the Socceroos on numerous occasions. He is the only player in NSL history to have played in four (4) championship winning teams and won the prestigious 'Marsden Medal' for his best on ground performance in the 1997/98 Grand Final.

### 4. MEHMET DURAKOVIC

**Age:** 35
**Position:** Defender

Played with South Melbourne in the early nineties and was a member of the 1990/91 championship winning team. His Socceroo experience in defence has played an integral role in South's tremendous defensive record this season and will be further required with the absence of Patrick Kisnorbo to the Young Socceroos.

### 6. DAVID CLARKSON

**Age:** 33
**Position:** Midfielder

South Melbourne's midfield dynamo, in many peoples' eyes was the catalyst for South's back to back Championships during seasons 97/98 and 98/99. His courage despite adversity and his "take no prisoners" attitude, has seen him become a favourite with the South Melbourne faithful.

### 7. STEVE PANOPOULOS

**Age:** 25
**Position:** Midfielder/Striker

Another quiet achiever, Steve Panopoulos has grown into a one of the more skillful midfielders in the league. Played exceptional games in both of South Melbourne's Grand Final victories, a chance to dazzle on the world stage beckoned when he went to Brazil to compete in the World Club Championships.

## 8. VAUGHAN COVENY

**Age:** 29
**Position:** Striker

A member of the New Zealand team that participated in the 1999 Confederation Cup, Coveny, has developed into a an exciting forward, setting the crowd alight with his fast runs and his explosive right foot shot. Lovingly referred to as the Horse, Kiwi Vaughan Coveny is a regular in the starting line-up for South.

## 10. CON BOUTSIANIS

**Age:** 29
**Position:** Striker

Arguably Australia's best dead ball specialist, the left-footed Socceroo is hoping to emulate the feats of the epic 1997/98 NSL Grand Final where he scored the winning goal. Following two seasons in Perth, where he was top goal scorer both seasons, he rejoined the club in the off-season and after a slow start, has hit the best form of his life scoring 11 goals from the past 13 matches.

## 11. JOHN ANASTASIADIS

**Age:** 32
**Position:** Striker

Goal scoring hero John Anastasiadis has become a legend on the terraces at South Melbourne for his goal scoring knack - usually when South is on the ropes and needs some inspiration. John has played an important part in the last two Championships - scoring the opening goal in our 2-1 win over Carlton in the 1997/98 Grand Final and then bagging a double in the 3-2 win over Sydney United in the 19998/99 Grand Final.

## 13. ANDY VLAHOS

**Age:** 26
**Position:** Striker

Signed for South Melbourne from Greek First Division giant Panathinaikos in January last season but only managed 9 games before sustaining a knee injury. This season, however, he has played in all but two matches scoring 13 goals in the process to finish the campaign as the clubs top goal scorer. Was a member of the Carlton Soccer Club team that lost to South Melbourne in the 1997/98 NSL Grand Final.

## 14. VAS KALOGERACOS

**Age:** 31
**Position:** Midfielder

Starred for Perth Glory over three seasons before a fall-out left him in limbo. Joined South Melbourne at the beginning of this season, but has found it difficult to cement a regular first team position, despite scoring six goals from his 21 appearances.

## 15. GORAN LOZANOVSKI

**Age:** 27
**Position:** Midfielder

Joe Martson medal for best player in the 98/99 grand final, Lozanovski will be once again entertaining the masses of South fans with another season of his blistering free kicks, mazy runs and sublime touches.





## 16. ZJELKO SUSA

**Age:** 22
**Position:** Midfielder

Signed from cross town rival the Melbourne Knights, Susa is a commanding midfielder who has made a big impact on the South squad. His ability to read play and distribute the ball has led to countless attacks from the centre of the park. Will play a key role in South's championship challenge.

## 20. CHRIS JONES

**Age:** 25
**Position:** Goalkeeper

Starred for South Melbourne at the FIFA Club World Championships in Brazil 2000 and was awarded Supporters' player of the tournament. Joined South in 1998, but only managed a game until the departure of Petkovic. Jones was then the regular keeper before the reurn of Petkovic has seen him return to the substitutes bench.

## 25. SIMON COLOSIMO

**Age:** 22
**Position:** Defender/Midfielder

Following the collapse of his club Carlton, Colosimo joined South mid-season but should not break into the starting eleven for months. However, the Socceroo, Olyroo, & Australia Under 20's (captain) has found form of late and is beginning to show glimpses of the Colosimo of old.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(LG Socceroos)

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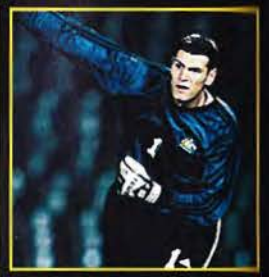
# SOCCEROOS HAVE THEIR SAY

## 2001 NSL GRAND FINAL - WOLLONGONG WOLVES Vs SOUTH MELBOURNE

*John Aloisi*

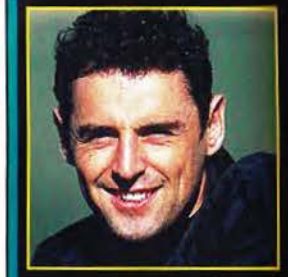
*Brett Emerton*

*Frank Farina*


*Zelijko Kalac*

*Stan Lazaridis*

| | | TIP | Scoreline |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALOISI | John | Wollongong | 5-4 |
| EMERTON | Brett | South Melbourne | 2-1 |
| FARINA | Frank | Draw (Wollongong on penalties) | 2-2 |
| KALAC | Zeljko | Wollongong | 3-2 |
| LAZARIDIS | Stan | South Melbourne | 4-2 |
| MUSCAT | Kevin | South Melbourne | 1-0 |
| OKON | Paul | Wollongong | 3-2 |
| SCHWARZER | Mark | South Melbourne | 2-1 |
| STERJOVSKI | Mile | Wollongong | 2-1 |
| ZDRILIC | David | Wollongong | 4-1 |


*Kevin Muscat*

*Paul Okon*

*Mark Schwarzer*

*Mile Sterjovski*

*David Zdrilic*


SUPPORTING THE WOLLONGONG WOLVES - *WERE HUNGRY FOR ANOTHER ONE*

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Lawyers

CONTACT VIC CUOCO PH: (02) 4228 6944


# LG SOCCEROOS


LG Life's Good


With a place in the 2002 FIFA World Cup beckoning, the LG Socceroos have already progressed through the first phase of the Oceania World Cup Qualifiers, and are awaiting to see who they will meet in the Final OFC Qualifier in late June.

Their results under current national coach Frank Farina speak for themselves, including in the first round when the team secured world headlines after beating American Samoa in a world record scoreline of 31-0... a game in which striker Archie Thompson also claimed an individual world record 13 goals.

## Collated results for the LG Socceroos under Frank Farina:

| Date | Opponent | Result | Venue | Match Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| November 1999 | Vs Brazil | 0-1 | Sydney (Stadium Australia) | (non-A) |
| November 1999 | Vs Brazil | 2-2 | Melbourne (MCG) | (non-A) |
| February 2000 | Vs Chile | 1-2 | Valparaiso, Chile | (A) |
| February 2000 | Vs Slovakia | 0-0 | Valparaiso, Chile | (A) |
| February 2000 | Vs Bulgaria | 1-1 | Valparaiso, Chile | (A) |
| February 2000 | Vs Hungary | 3-0 | Budapest, Hungary | (A) |
| March 2000 | Vs Czech Republic | 1-3 | Teplice, Czech Republic | (A) |
| June 2000 | Vs Paraguay | 0-0 | Sydney (Football Stadium) | (A) |
| June 2000 | Vs Paraguay | 0-0 | Brisbane (The Gabba) | (A) |
| June 2000 | Vs Paraguay | 2-1 | Melbourne (Olympic Park) | (A) |
| June 2000 | Vs Cook Islands | 17-0 | Papeete, Tahiti | (A) |
| June 2000 | Vs Solomon Islands | 6-0 | Papeete, Tahiti | (A) |
| June 2000 | Vs Vanuatu | 1-0 | Papeete, Tahiti | (A) |
| June 2000 | Vs New Zealand | 2-0 | Papeete, Tahiti | (A) |
| October 2000 | Vs Kuwait | 1-0 | Dubai, UAE | (A) |
| October 2000 | Vs South Korea | 2-4 | Dubai, UAE | (A) |
| November 2000 | Vs Scotland | 2-0 | Glasgow, Scotland | (A) |
| February 2001 | Vs Colombia | 2-3 | Bogota, Colombia | (A) |
| April 2001 | Vs Tonga | 22-0 | Coffs Harbour, Australia | (A) |
| April 2001 | Vs American Samoa | 31-0 | Coffs Harbour, Australia | (A) |
| April 2001 | Vs Fiji | 2-0 | Coffs Harbour, Australia | (A) |
| April 2001 | Vs Samoa | 11-0 | Coffs Harbour, Australia | (A) |
| May 2001 | Vs Mexico | 2-0 | Suwon, Korea Republic | (A) |

The LG Socceroos share a laugh during their clash with American Samoa

# Todays Officials

# OFFICIALS

**Eddie Lennie**
Referee

Eddie Lennie has been living in Perth since moving from Scotland just over ten years ago. A three recipient of the NSL Referee of the Year award, Lennie (41) is also a FIFA accredited official, having participated at France. It will be the fourth NSL grand final for Lennie.

**John Bowdler**
Senior Assistant Referee

Bowdler is a FIFA accredited referee, and has officiated the 1993 Youth World Cup, the World Youth Cup in Malaysia in 1997, the final of the 1999 World Youth Cup in Nigeria. He has been awarded Assistant Referee of the year three times. This is his eighth NSL grand final appearance in a row.

**John Peacock**
Assistant Referee

Peacock was welcomed to NSL refereeing ranks in 1995, and this is his first NSL Grand Final. Career highlights include an international appointment, as assistant referee in 1999 at a match between South Korea and Norway, played in Brisbane.

**Mark Shield**
Fourth Official

His career highlights include a quarter-final appointment (Germany V Portugal) of the 2000 UEFA Youth Under 16 Championship in Israel, Australia V Manchester United at the MCG (1999) and the FIFA Under-16 World Cup Tournament in New Zealand in the same year.

## 2000-2001 AWARD'S NIGHT NOMINEES

**PLAYERS' PLAYER OF THE YEAR -'WARREN MEDAL'**
CON BOUTSIANIS (SOUTH MELBOURNE)
SCOTT CHIPPERFIELD (WOLLONGONG WOLVES)
BOBBY DESPOTOVSKI (PERTH GLORY)
DAMIAN MORI (PERTH GLORY)
ARCHIE THOMPSON (MARCONI STALLIONS/CARLTON)

**UNDER 21 PLAYER OF THE YEAR - 'PAPASAVAS MEDAL'**
BEN BURGESS (NORTHERN SPIRIT)
LIUBO MILICEVIC (PERTH GLORY)
GREG OWENS (SYDNEY OLYMPIC)

**GOALKEEPER OF THE YEAR**
CLINT BOLTON (SYDNEY OLYMPIC)
JASON PETKOVIC (PERTH GLORY)
MICHAEL PETKOVIC (SOUTH MELBOURNE)

**COACH OF THE YEAR**
RON CORRY (WOLLONGONG WOLVES)
BRANKO CULINA (SYDNEY OLYMPIC)
MIKE PETERSEN (SOUTH MELBOURNE)

**NORTHERN DIVISION YOUTH PLAYER OF THE YEAR**
ANTHONY DOUMANIS (SYDNEY OLYMPIC)
ADAM HUGHES (NEWCASTLE UNITED)
MATTHEW MCKAY (QAS/AIS)

**SOUTHERN DIVISION YOUTH PLAYER OF THE YEAR**
MASSIMO MURDOCCA (SOUTH MELBOURNE)
DANIEL ROCCO (VIS/MELBOURNE KNIGHTS)
MILAN SAJKIC (FAWKNER BLUES)

**ADMIRAL REFEREE OF THE YEAR**
EDWARD LENNIE
SIMON MICALLEF
MARK SHIELD

**ADMIRAL ASSISTANT REFEREE OF THE YEAR**
JOHN BOWDLER (NSW)
JOHN PEACOCK (QLD)
PAUL SMITH (NZ)

**PREMIERS**
SOUTH MELBOURNE
FAIR PLAY AWARD
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AWARDS





# The Ups & Downs

## Season Review

DAMIAN MORI

CON BOUTSIANIS

SCOTT CHIPPERFIELD

What a great finish it promises to be at Parramatta Stadium today. This is not just another grand final. As gladiatorial events go, today's encounter will be a battle between Goliath and Goliath. There's no David in this contest. There's no underdog. There are no excuses. Both teams move like butterflies, sting like bees and can defend like a Praetorian Guard.

It can't get any bigger than this blockbuster. A former Oceania champion (South Melbourne) faces the reigning Oceania champion. South also is a former back-to-back champion and the Wolves are chasing their second title in a row. On top of that, South is gunning for its third NSL title in four years and a record fifth title to become the most decorated club in the league's history.

In another first, this grand final has been brought forward to 12 noon from 3pm and is being televised live by the Seven Network. Sydney vie ers might miss out on the telecast unless the match has been sold out. For the third time in its 24 seasons, the NSL attracted more than a million spectators. The average attendance per game was 5,122. Perth Glory, South Melbourne and New Zealand's Football Kingz recorded the highest averages at their grounds.

Last season's minor premier and runner-up Perth Glory were considered favorites ahead of their nemesis Wollongong Wolves. Ahead 3-0 at half time, the Glory plunged to 3-3 to lose on penalties. Everyone expected this season to be its break-through year. Yet, the vanguard Glory, such a hot item at home, fell to the determined Knights in the elimination final.

According to the pundits, the final six would be Perth on top followed by Parramatta Power, Sydney Olympic, South Melbourne, Marconi Stallions and Wollongong Wolves. Instead it finished South Melbourne, Wollongong, Perth, Olympic, Marconi and Melbourne Knights. Not bad, come to think of it. The order wasn't right, but correctly selecting five teams out of six was a pretty good prediction.

LINDSAY WILSON

ADRIAN CERVINSKI

CLAYTON BELL

Youthful Melbourne Knights were the surprise packet and Parramatta, which finished ninth, a huge disappointment, as was Northern Spirit in third-last spot. A remarkable fact was that Adelaide City Force failed to make the top, six after more than a decade of continuous finals football - and the fact that nobody bothered to pick them at kick-off. The Force had qualified for every finals series since 1990, winning the title in 1992 and 1994.

By round 13, front runners South Melbourne and Wollongong had settled in first and second spots, with Perth and Sydney Olympic in third and fourth places. It was how eventually they would finish. Interestingly, Perth and Olympic proved almost inseparable. After the 30 home-and-away rounds both sides were on 61 points and had a goal average of +40. Perth managed third because it had scored more goals (80) than Olympic (73).

By early April, Victoria's regional club and the league's bottom-side Eastern Pride, of Morwell, was sliding towards a fatal cash crisis. Players had not been paid for weeks and again the FPA intervened. Players walked out and Pride contested its round 26 match against Canbarra Cosmos with its youth side, losing 7-1. Sydney United sacked Alan Hunter. Stalwart Velimir Kupresak took over but resigned late April after six weeks in charge, leaving Tony Pezzano as caretaker. Tom Sermanni waved Canberra goodbye by round 19, handing his baton to Mike

Milanovic. Graham Arnold hung up his boots and quit his coaching job at Northern Spirit last February to join Socceroo coach Frank Farina as assistant coach. Mike Hickman took over as caretaker.

Vlado Vanis was sacked at the Melbourne Knights with six rounds left. Marth took over as captain-coach. Lee Sterrey was told he would not be coaching Newcastle United next season. The brothers Wynton an Shane Rufer were issued a similar message at the Football Kingz. Eddie Krncevic lost his job at Marconi as the Stallions dropped out of the finals race.

Then there was Stuart Munro whose coaching job at Carlton evaporated and Jeff Hopkins' future at Eastern Pride is also uncertain. Grand-final-winning coach Nick Theodorakopoulos didn't even get a start, being replaced with Ron Corry at the Wolves before the season. Life at the administrative helm also underwent serious changes.

ALEX CASTRO

WAYNE SRHOJ

JOHN BUONAVOGLIA

Soccer Australia chairman Basil Scarcella moved up to succeed the retiring New Zealander Charles Dempsey as president of the Oceania Football Confederation.

There were several smashing victories. Brisbane Strikers trounced Adelaide City 6-2 in round 12. Perth Glory hammered Brisbane 7-2 in round 13. Perth Glory out-slugged Adelaide City 6-4, while the Wolves got into the swing against Newcastle for a 9-4 monster score.

One of the NSL's greatest players and former Socceroo captain, Alex Tobin broke the league record of 445 games, held by former Adelaide City team-mate Sergio Melta.

Another Adelaide force, Aurelio Vidmar, who returned after eight years playing overseas, reached 200 NSL games this season.

In other milestones, Sydney United's Francis Awaritefe hung up his boots after 323 NSL games, while Robbie Slater bowed out at Northern Spirit after, a distinguished career overseas and for the Socceroos.

Newcastle's Bob Catlin became the first NSL goal keeper to record 100 clean sheets when United held South Melbourne to a 0-0 draw in round 10. The Melbourne Knights played their 500th NSL game this season.

Australia's brightest product Mark Viduka was named 2000 Oceania Footballer of the Year. The 24-year-old Viduka is now Australia's most prominent sports star. His award-winning prowess in Australia, Croatia, Scotland, England and Oceania now makes him the top Australian contemporary sports icon, ahead of Cathy Freeman, Greg Norman or any Aussie Rules Football player.

Viduka is a hero at England's Premier League club Leeds United, together with other Aussie star Harry Kewell, spearheading Aussie fame abroad.

It goes to show that soccer (or football) is the ultimate world game, in which Australia and the NSL aim to play a significant part now and in the future.

# The Ups & Downs

## Season Review

LUCAS PANTELLS

BEN BURGESS

WYNTON RUFER

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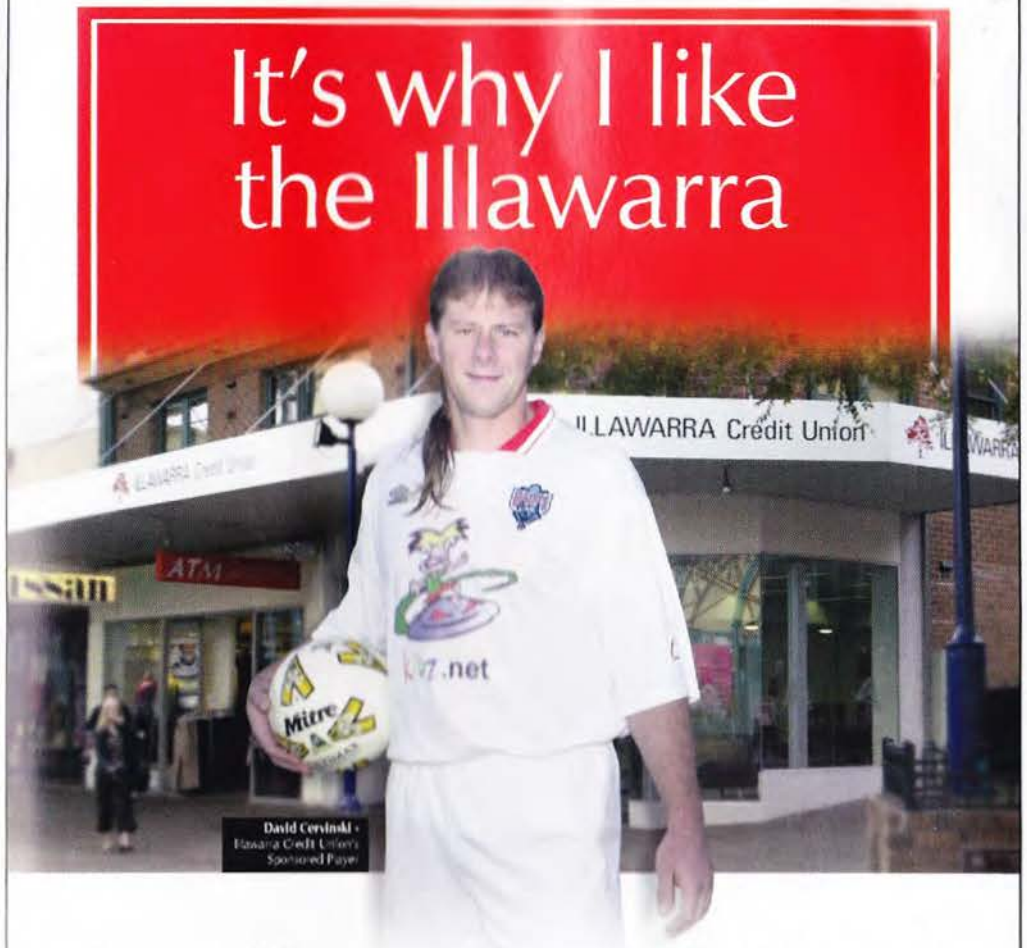
It's why I like the Illawarra



David Cervinski - Illawarra Credit Union's Sponsored Player

Another Grand Final
Go Wolves!

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WISDOM ICI/HWP

# CROWDS STILL ON THE UP

The aggregate attendance for the 2000/01 National Soccer League season has topped the 1.1 million mark for the third season in succession – and only the third time ever.

Since the NSL cracked the one million mark for the first time in season 1996/97, the upsurge in interest in the league has continued unabated with more than one million spectators recorded again in the 1998/99 season. The 1999/2000 season, climaxing with a record 43,242 watching the unforgettable Subiaco Oval grand final, topped the 1.5 million mark.

It is a far cry from season 1989 - the last NSL season played as a winter competition - when the aggregate season attendance fell short of 600,000.

The NSL showed its resilience in the 2000/01 season when, despite some trying conditions off the park, the average regular season crowd rose by 1.2 per cent over the 1999/2000 average to record the third highest season average in the league's history.

**TOP FIVE AGGREGATE AND AVERAGE SEASON CROWDS**

| Season | Aggregate attendance Regular season | Aggregate attendance Including finals | Season | Average attendance Regular season | Average attendance Including finals |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1999/00 | 1,373,273 | 1,503,154 | 1998/99 | 5,622 | 5,989 |
| 1998/99 | 1,180,665 | 1,311,515 | 1996/97 | 5,481 | 5,732 |
| 2000/01 (incomplete) | 1,052,265 | 1,136,223 | 2000/01 | 5,108 | 5,309 |
| 1996/97 | 992,091 | 1,089,171 | 1999/00 | 5,049 | 5,349 |
| 1981 | 925,800 | 925,800 | 1997/98 | 4,982 | 5,159 |

# ANOTHER CROWD RECORD

## NSL GOALS AT ALL-TIME HIGH LEVELS

If entertainment value was measured purely by number of goals scored then the 2000/01 NSL season will be remembered fondly for quite some time.

Over the 2000/01 regular season, an average of 3.33 goals per game were scored, by far the highest goal scoring season in NSL history. The 2000/01 average was up a huge 16 per cent on the 1999/2000 season average of 2.86 per game, and 5.4 per cent above the previous highest season (1996/97 at 3.16 goals per game).

**TOP FIVE AVERAGE SEASON GOALS**

| Season | Goals per game |
|---|---|
| 2000/01 | 3.33 |
| 1996/97 | 3.16 |
| 1978 | 2.92 |
| 1982 | 2.92 |
| 1995/96 | 2.91 |

The season with the lowest goals per game average was 1991/92, when a mere 2.31 goals were scored on average.

The 2000/01 season also saw the equal highest number of goals in a single game, when 13 goals were scored in Wollongong Wolves – Newcastle United match played on March 16. Amazingly on that very same night, the equal next highest number of goals in all NSL matches – ten – was recorded when Adelaide City met Perth Glory. Ten goals in a game were again scored this season when Melbourne Knights played Newcastle United in round 30.

**MOST GOALS SCORED IN NSL MATCHES**

| Goals | Season | Score |
|---|---|---|
| 13 | 2000/01 | Wollongong Wolves 9 – Newcastle United 4 |
| 13 | 1977 | Adelaide City 10 – Mooroolbark 3 |
| 10 | 2000/01 | Melbourne Knights 6 – Newcastle United 4 |
| 10 | 2000/01 | Adelaide City 4 – Perth Glory 6 |
| 10 | 1999/00 | Sydney Olympic 7 – Canberra Cosmos 3 |
| 10 | 1995/96 | Newcastle Breakers 5 – Canberra Cosmos 5 |
| 10 | 1990/91 | South Melbourne 7 – Illawarra Lions 3 |

# Season Statistics

*Please note that finals statistics are not included within the tables below*

## NSL SEASON TABLE

| | Total | | | | | | | Home | | | | | Away | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | W | D | L | F | A | W | D | L | F | A |
| South Melbourne | 30 | 21 | 6 | 3 | 70 | 24 | 69 | 13 | 2 | 0 | 41 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 29 | 15 |
| Wollongong Wolves | 30 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 80 | 40 | 61 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 46 | 21 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 34 | 19 |
| Perth Glory | 30 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 73 | 33 | 61 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 39 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 34 | 23 |
| Sydney Olympic | 30 | 17 | 6 | 7 | 58 | 37 | 57 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 32 | 14 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 26 | 23 |
| Marconi Stallions | 30 | 14 | 8 | 8 | 42 | 33 | 50 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 24 | 19 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 18 | 14 |
| Melbourne Knights | 30 | 14 | 7 | 9 | 61 | 46 | 49 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 34 | 21 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 27 | 25 |
| Adelaide City Force | 30 | 12 | 7 | 11 | 54 | 54 | 43 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 35 | 28 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 19 | 26 |
| Football Kingz | 30 | 12 | 7 | 11 | 52 | 52 | 43 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 28 | 25 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 24 | 27 |
| Parramatta Power | 30 | 13 | 3 | 14 | 42 | 44 | 42 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 25 | 24 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 17 | 20 |
| Sydney United | 30 | 12 | 6 | 12 | 46 | 56 | 42 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 23 | 23 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 23 | 33 |
| Canberra Cosmos | 30 | 11 | 4 | 15 | 49 | 55 | 37 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 28 | 24 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 21 | 31 |
| Brisbane Strikers | 30 | 9 | 8 | 13 | 52 | 56 | 35 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 33 | 25 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 19 | 31 |
| Northern Spirit | 30 | 8 | 8 | 14 | 39 | 60 | 32 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 15 | 20 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 24 | 30 |
| Newcastle United | 30 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 37 | 56 | 30 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 13 | 21 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 24 | 35 |
| Eastern Pride | 30 | 5 | 5 | 20 | 32 | 61 | 0* | 3 | 5 | 7 | 17 | 25 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 15 | 36 |

* All points deducted due to breach of NSL regulations

## NSL SEASON RESULTS

| | ACF | BS | CC | EP | FK | MS | MK | NU | NS | PP | PG | SM | SO | SU | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Adelaide City Force | | 2-2 | 6-0 | 4-3 | 1-1 | 0-0 | 3-2 | 1-1 | 3-2 | 3-0 | 4-6 | 1-3 | 3-5 | 0-2 | 1-1 |
| Brisbane Strikers | 6-2 | | 2-2 | 3-1 | 1-1 | 1-2 | 1-2 | 0-0 | 1-1 | 3-1 | 1-4 | 3-2 | 2-1 | 4-2 | 2-4 |
| Canberra Cosmos | 1-1 | 1-1 | | 7-1 | 0-2 | 1-2 | 3-0 | 3-2 | 3-2 | 0-1 | 0-1 | 1-3 | 2-3 | 1-2 | 2-1 |
| Eastern Pride | 1-2 | 2-2 | 3-1 | | 1-3 | 0-0 | 2-2 | 1-1 | 0-2 | 2-1 | 2-3 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 0-3 | 0-3 |
| Football Kingz | 0-1 | 3-2 | 2-3 | 2-1 | | 1-0 | 2-2 | 5-1 | 1-2 | 0-1 | 3-3 | 1-6 | 1-0 | 1-1 | 3-2 |
| Marconi Stallions | 0-2 | 2-1 | 1-0 | 2-1 | 3-1 | | 0-0 | 2-2 | 0-0 | 2-1 | 0-2 | 1-1 | 2-3 | 5-2 | 1-3 |
| Melbourne Knights | 1-1 | 2-1 | 2-0 | 2-1 | 2-2 | 1-4 | | 6-4 | 1-1 | 2-1 | 1-1 | 4-0 | 2-3 | 4-0 | 1-2 |
| Newcastle United | 0-1 | 0-2 | 2-1 | 1-0 | 1-0 | 0-1 | 1-5 | | 2-4 | 0-2 | 1-0 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 1-1 | 1-3 |
| Northern Spirit | 2-3 | 1-0 | 0-2 | 0-1 | 4-2 | 0-0 | 1-4 | 0-0 | | 0-0 | 2-0 | 1-2 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 0-4 |
| Parramatta Power | 1-0 | 3-1 | 2-3 | 2-0 | 1-3 | 0-2 | 1-3 | 1-1 | 3-0 | | 2-3 | 0-3 | 3-1 | 3-2 | 0-2 |
| Perth Glory | 2-0 | 7-2 | 3-0 | 2-1 | 5-1 | 0-1 | 1-0 | 4-0 | 4-1 | 0-1 | | 1-0 | 1-1 | 5-1 | 1-1 |
| South Melbourne | 1-0 | 3-0 | 1-0 | 3-0 | 3-0 | 6-1 | 4-1 | 1-0 | 6-2 | 1-1 | 1-1 | | 1-0 | 3-1 | 4-2 |
| Sydney Olympic | 3-0 | 2-0 | 3-1 | 3-0 | 2-0 | 1-0 | 1-0 | 2-2 | 2-1 | 0-2 | 3-3 | 2-2 | | 3-1 | 2-2 |
| Sydney United | 2-1 | 1-1 | 2-2 | 1-0 | 2-4 | 2-2 | 0-1 | 0-3 | 2-1 | 2-1 | 2-1 | 0-3 | 3-2 | | 1-1 |
| Wollongong Wolves | 6-2 | 2-1 | 2-3 | 4-2 | 1-1 | 1-0 | 5-2 | 9-4 | 2-2 | 5-1 | 1-1 | 0-1 | 3-1 | 2-0 | |

## LEADING GOAL SCORERS

| | |
|---|---|
| Damian Mori, Perth Glory | 19 |
| Saso Petrovski, Wollongong Wolves | 18 |
| Scott Chipperfield, Wollongong Wolves | 17 |
| Bobby Despotovski, Perth Glory | 17 |
| Ben Burgess, Northern Spirit | 16 |
| Andrew Vlahos, South Melbourne | 13 |
| Stuart Young, Wollongong Wolves | 13 |
| Con Boutsianis, South Melbourne | 12 |
| Adrian Cervinski, Melbourne Knights | 12 |
| Dennis Ibrahim, Kingz FC | 12 |
| Joel Porter, Melbourne Knights | 12 |
| Archie Thompson, Carlton/Marconi | 12 |

## SCORERS – 2000/01 SEASON SO FAR

### WOLLONGONG WOLVES - 00/01 SEASON

| | H/A | Finals | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Saso PETROVSKI | 18 | 2 | 20 |
| Scott CHIPPERFIELD | 17 | - | 17 |
| Stuart YOUNG | 13 | 1 | 14 |
| Paul REID | 7 | - | 7 |
| Matthew HORSLEY | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Robert STANTON | 5 | - | 5 |
| Alvin CECCOLI | 2 | - | 2 |
| David HUXLEY | 2 | - | 2 |
| Ben BLAKE | 1 | - | 1 |
| Paul HARRIES | 1 | - | 1 |
| Robert MIDDLEBY | 1 | - | 1 |

### SOUTH MELBOURNE - 00/01 SEASON

| | H/A | Finals | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Con BOUTSIANIS | 13 | 1 | 14 |
| Andrew VLAHOS | 13 | - | 13 |
| Paul TRIMBOLI | 9 | - | 9 |
| Vaughan COVENY | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Vas KALOGERACOS | 6 | - | 6 |
| Zeljko SUSA | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Goran LOZANOVSKI | 3 | - | 3 |
| John ANASTASIADIS | 2 | - | 2 |
| Simon COLOSIMO | 2 | - | 2 |
| Fausto DE AMICIS | 1 | - | 1 |
| Steve PANOPOULOS | 1 | - | 1 |

# NSL Finals Records

## NSL RECORD SCORES (MARGINS)

**Elimination Final**
Adelaide City 4 Wollongong Wolves 0 (92/93 series)
South Melbourne 5 Eastern Pride 1 (94/95 series, second leg)

**Major Semi-Final**
Marconi Stallions 7 South Melbourne 0 (92/93 series, second leg)

**Minor Semi-Final**
Adelaide City 4 Marconi Stallions 0 (96/97 series, second leg)

**Preliminary Final**
Sydney Olympic 3 Apia Leichhardt 0 (1984 series - northern division)
Marconi Stallions 4 Adelaide City 1 (95/96 series)

**Grand Final**
No team has won a grand final by more than two goals
South Melbourne 4 Heidelberg 2
(1984 series - southern division grand final)
Sydney City 2 Marconi Stallions 0
(1985 series - northern division grand final)
Adelaide City 3 Sydney Olympic 1
(1986 series - national grand final - second leg)
Sydney Olympic 2 Marconi Stallions 0 (89/90 series)
Melbourne Knights 2 Adelaide City 0 (94/95 series)
Brisbane Strikers 2 Sydney United 0 (96/97 series)

## RECORD CROWDS

**Elimination Final**
31,710 Perth Glory v Melbourne Knights (00/01series)
**Major Semi-Final**
42,764 Perth Glory v Wollongong Wolves (99/00 series)
**Minor Semi-Final**
27,556 Perth Glory v Marconi Stallions (98/99 series)
**Preliminary Final**
11,507 South Melbourne v Adelaide City (90/91 series)
**Grand Final**
43,242 Perth Glory v Wollongong Wolves (99/00 series)

## ALL-TIME FINALS GOALSCORERS

| Player | Goals | Games | Average | Clubs (goals) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Francis Awaritefe | 9 | 33 | 0.27 | Marconi (4), Melbourne Knights (3) South Melbourne (2) |
| Damian Mori | 8 | 27 | 0.3 | Adelaide City (8) |
| Frank Farina | 7 | 13 | 0.54 | Sydney City (4) Brisbane Strikers (2) Marconi (1) |
| Marshall Soper | 7 | 16 | 0.44 | Sydney Olympic (6), Parramatta Eagles (1) |
| Carl Veart | 7 | 22 | 0.32 | Adelaide City (7) |
| Paul Trimboli | 7 | 33 | 0.21 | South Melbourne (7) |
| Adrian Cervinski | 6 | 14 | 0.43 | Melbourne Knights (6) |
| Brad Maloney | 6 | 13 | 0.40 | Marconi Stallions (4) Sydney Olympic (1) Perth Glory (1 |
| Andrew Harper | 6 | 15 | 0.40 | Marconi Stallions (6) |
| Bradley Hassell | 6 | 15 | 0.40 | Adelaide City (6) |
| Con Boutsianis | 6 | 20 | 0.30 | South Melbourne (5) Perth Glory (1) |
| Charlie Egan | 5 | 6 | 0.83 | South Melbourne (5) |
| David Lowe | 5 | 19 | 0.26 | Marconi Stallions (5) |
| Steve Maxwell | 5 | 22 | 0.23 | Adelaide City (5) |
| Sergio Melta | 5 | 24 | >0.21 | Adelaide City (5) |

## NSL CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS UP

| Season | Champion | Runner up |
|---|---|---|
| 1977 | Sydney City | Marconi Stallions |
| 1978 | Adelaide Sharks | Sydney City |
| 1979 | Marconi Stallions | Heidelberg |
| 1980 | Sydney City | Heidelberg |
| 1981 | Sydney City | South Melbourne |
| 1982 | Sydney City | St George |
| 1983 | St George | Sydney City |
| 1984 | South Melbourne | Sydney Olympic |
| 1985 | Brunswick | Sydney City |
| 1986 | Adelaide City | Sydney Olympic |
| 1987 | Leichhardt | Preston |
| 1988 | Marconi Stallions | Sydney United |
| 1989 | Marconi Stallions | Sydney Olympic |
| 1989/90 | Sydney Olympic | Marconi Stallions |
| 1990/91 | South Melbourne | Melbourne Knights |
| 1991/92 | Adelaide City | Melbourne Knights |
| 1992/93 | Marconi Stallions | Adelaide City |
| 1993/94 | Adelaide City | Melbourne Knights |
| 1994/95 | Melbourne Knights | Adelaide City |
| 1995/96 | Melbourne Knights | Marconi Stallions |
| 1996/97 | Brisbane Strikers | Sydney United |
| 1997/98 | South Melbourne | Carlton |
| 1998/99 | South Melbourne | Sydney United |
| 1999/00 | Wollongong Wolves | Perth Glory |

## ATTENDANCE RECORDS FOR FINALS SERIES

Highest: 130850 (9 games) 98/99 series
Lowest: 43,800 (6 games) 1988 series

## APPEARANCE RECORDS FOR FINALS SERIES

| Player | Games | W | D | L | Clubs (games) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alex Tobin | 38 | 21 | 3 | 14 | Adelaide City (38) |
| Francis Awaritefe | 33 | 11 | 7 | 15 | Marconi (14) South Melbourne (10) Melbourne Knights (9) |
| Milan Ivanovic | 32 | 17 | 3 | 12 | Adelaide City (32) |
| Paul Trimboli | 33 | 14 | 5 | 14 | South Melbourne (33) |
| Mike Petersen | 28 | 14 | 5 | 9 | South Melbourne (19) Brunswick (5) Heidelberg (4) |
| Damian Mori | 27 | 12 | 6 | 9 | Perth Glory (2) Adelaide City(21) Melbourne Knights (2) |
| Joe Mullen | 26 | 17 | 1 | 8 | Adelaide City (26) |
| Sergio Melta | 24 | 15 | 1 | 8 | Adelaide City (24) |
| Ian Gray | 23 | 10 | 5 | 8 | Marconi Stallions (20) Apia Leichhardt (3) |
| John Markovski | 23 | 8 | 3 | 12 | Carlton (7) Melb.Knights (5) Perth (4) Marconi (2) Gippsland (2) Sunshine (2) Preston(1) |
| Gary Phillips | 23 | 12 | 1 | 10 | Sydney Olympic (19) Brisbane Strikers (4) |
| Steve Maxwell | 22 | 14 | 1 | 7 | Adelaide City (22) |
| Paul Wade | 22 | 8 | 4 | 10 | South Melbourne (15) Brunswick (7) |
| David Barrett | 21 | 8 | 1 | 12 | Sydney Olympic (15) Sydney United (6) |
| Fausto DeAmicis | 23 | 13 | 4 | 5 | Melbourne Knights (10) South Melbourne (10 Brunswick (1) |
| Robert Hooker | 21 | 8 | 3 | 10 | Sydney Olympic (11) Adelaide Sharks (4) Marconi (3) Sydney United (2) Sydney City (1) |





# Roll of Honour

| Season | Player of the Year | U/21 Player of the Year | Top-Goal scorer | Coach of the Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1977 | Jim Rooney (Marconi) | John Kosmina (Adelaide Sharks) | John Deans (Adelaide City) - 16 | Rale Rasic (Marconi) |
| 1978 | Ken Boden (NewcastleUtd) | Ian Souness (Sydney City) | Ken Boden (Newcastle Utd) Clive Eaton (Western Subs) - 14 | Gerry Chaldi (Sydney City) |
| 1979 | Ivo Prskalo (Marconi) | Eddie Krnavic (Marconi) | Mark Jankovic (Marconi) - 18 | Les Scheinflug (Marconi) |
| 1980 | Jim Hermiston (Brisbane Lions) | John Spanos (Sydney City) | Gary Cole (Heidelberg) - 21 | John Margaritis (StKMelbourne) |
| 1981 | Bobby Russell (Adelaide City) | David Mitchell (Adelaide City) | Gary Cole (Heidelberg) - 16 | Eddie Thomson (Sydney City) |
| 1982 | Peter Katholos (Sydney Olympic) | David Lowe (Newcastle Utd) | John Kosmina (Sydney City) - 23 | Frank Arok (St George) |
| 1983 | Joe Watson (Sydney City) | Oscar Crino (South Melbourne) | Doug Brown (South Melbourne) - 16 | Frank Arok (St George) |
| 1984 | Sergio Melta (Adelaide City) | Tony Franken (Canberra City) | Doug Brown (South Melbourne) - 22 | Eddie Thomson (Sydney City) |
| 1985 | Graham Honeyman(AdelaideSharks) | Alan Hunter (Brisbane Lions) | Charlie Egan (South Melbourne) - 21 | Eddie Thomson (Sydney City) |
| 1986 | Bobby Russell (South Melbourne) Graham Arnold (Sydney United) | Ernie Tapai (Footscray) | Graham Arnold (Sydney United) - 17 | Drago Sekularic (Footscray) |
| 1987 | Andrew Zinni (Brunswick) Frank Farina (Marconi) | John Markovski (Sunshine) | Frank Farina (Marconi) - 16 | Rale Rasic (Leichhardt) |
| 1988 | Paul Wade (South Melbourne) Frank Farina (Marconi) | Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne) | Frank Farina (Marconi) - 17 | Brian Garvey (South Melbourne) |
| 1989 | Zlatko Nastevski (Marconi) | Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne) | Zlatko Nastevski (Marconi) - 22 | Bertie Mariani (Marconi) |
| 1989/90 | Zeljko Adzic (Melbourne Knights) | Paul Okon (Marconi) | David Seal (Sydney United) - 15 | Bertie Mariani (Marconi) |
| 1990/91 | Milan Ivanovic (Adelaide City) | Paul Okon (Marconi) | David Seal (Marconi) - 19 | Zoran Matic (Adelaide City) |
| 1991/92 | Josip Biskic (Melbourne Knights) | Kevin Muscat (Heidelberg) | Tim Bredbury (Olympic) Kim Taliadoros (Sth Melbourne) - 15 | David Ratcliffe (Wollongong Wolves) |
| 1992/93 | Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne) | Steve Corica (Marconi) | Francis Awaritefe (South Melbourne) 19 | Jim Pyrgolios (South Melbourne) |
| 1993/94 | Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights) | Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights) | Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights) - 17 | Mirko Bazic (Melbourne Knights) |
| 1994/95 | Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights) | Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights) | Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights) - 21 | Mirko Bazic (Melbourne Knights) |
| 1995/96 | Damian Mori (Adelaide City) | Goran Lozanovski (Adelaide City) | Damian Mori (Adelaide City) - 31 | John Perin (Adelaide City) |
| 1996/97 | Kresimir Marusic (Sydney United) | Kasey Wehrman (Brisbane Strikers) | David Zdrilic (Sydney United) - 21 | Branko Culina (Sydney United) |
| 1997/98 | Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne) | Brett Emerton (Sydney Olympic) | Damian Mori (Adelaide City) - 19 | Angie Postecoglou (South Melbourne) |
| 1998/99 | Brad Maloney (Marconi) | Mile Sterjovski (Sydney United) | Pablo Cardozo (Olympic) Mile Sterjovski (Sydney Utd) - 18 | David Mitchell (Sydney United) |
| 1999/00 | Scott Chipperfield (Wollongong Wolves) | Ivan Ergic (Perth Glory) | Damian Mori (Adelaide City) - 22 | Bernd Stange (Perth Glory) |

## ALL-TIME NSL TABLE

| Club | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| South Melbourne | 672 | 325 | 161 | 186 | 1082 | 779 | 1136 |
| Adelaide Force | 671 | 280 | 177 | 214 | 995 | 783 | 1017 |
| Marconi | 671 | 315 | 158 | 198 | 1144 | 826 | 1103 |
| Sydney Olympic | 646 | 262 | 173 | 211 | 938 | 811 | 959 |
| Melbourne Knights | 474 | 216 | 107 | 154 | 742 | 603 | 755 |
| Sydney United | 478 | 210 | 120 | 148 | 672 | 595 | 750 |
| Wollongong Wolves | 544 | 185 | 143 | 216 | 761 | 817 | 698 |
| Brisbane Strikers | 277 | 100 | 62 | 115 | 390 | 414 | 362 |
| Gippsland Falcons | 252 | 66 | 69 | 117 | 264 | 409 | 267 |
| Canberra Cosmos | 176 | 35 | 40 | 101 | 216 | 362 | 145 |
| Perth Glory | 142 | 72 | 30 | 40 | 272 | 193 | 246 |
| Northern Spirit | 91 | 31 | 16 | 44 | 111 | 144 | 109 |
| Kingz | 63 | 25 | 13 | 25 | 103 | 111 | 88 |
| Parramatta Power | 62 | 25 | 8 | 29 | 88 | 91 | 83 |
| Newcastle United | 28 | 5 | 9 | 14 | 31 | 56 | 24 |

2000/2001 teams only. Finals games excluded
* Points based on 3 points per win, 1 point per draw

| Coach | Years | Games |
|---|---|---|
| Frank Arok | 1982-98 | 429 |
| Zoran Matic | 1986-01 | 427 |
| Manfred Schaefer | 1977-99 | 332 |
| Rale Rasic | 1977-98 | 302 |
| Raul Blanco | 1977-98 | 284 |
| Eddie Thomson | 1980-89 | 272 |
| John Margaritis | 1977-93 | 264 |
| David Ratcliffe | 1987-99 | 229 |
| Bruno Culina | 1992-01 | 225 |
| Len McKendry | 1980-91 | 212 |

## RECORD NSL ALL-TIME GOAL SCORERS

| Player | Goals | Games | Average |
|---|---|---|---|
| Damian Mori | 148 | 298 | 0.50 |
| Rod Brown | 137 | 346 | 0.40 |
| John Kosmina | 133 | 289 | 0.46 |
| Francis Awaritefe | 124 | 323 | 0.38 |
| Marshall Soper | 119 | 318 | 0.37 |
| Ivan Kelic | 116 | 276 | 0.42 |
| Gary Cole | 109 | 246 | 0.44 |
| John Markovski | 109 | 349 | 0.31 |
| Warren Spink | 104 | 273 | 0.38 |
| Frank Farina | 102 | 206 | 0.50 |
| Paul Trimboli | 101 | 372 | 0.27 |
| Andrew Harper | 101 | 321 | 0.31 |
| Mark Jankovics | 99 | 227 | 0.44 |
| Pablo Cardozo | 96 | 233 | 0.41 |
| Con Boutsianis | 92 | 239 | 0.38 |

## RECORD NSL ALL-TIME APPEARANCES

| Player | Years | Games | Goals |
|---|---|---|---|
| Alex Tobin | 1984-2001 | 462 | 29 |
| Sergio Melta | 1977-95 | 445 | 64 |
| Mike O'Shea | 1977-96 | 406 | 13 |
| Paul Trimboli | 1987-2001 | 401 | 110 |
| Theo Selemidis | 1977-94 | 393 | 24 |
| Robert Hooker | 1986-2001 | 384 | 20 |
| Gary Phillips | 1982-97 | 377 | 20 |
| Danny Wright | 1980-97 | 353 | 49 |
| Graham Jennings | 1979-94 | 351 | 14 |
| John Markovski | 1986-2000 | 349 | 109 |
| David Barret | 1986-2001 | 348 | 12 |
| Rod Brown | 1983-98 | 346 | 137 |
| David Lowe | 1982-97 | 345 | 81 |
| Bob Catlin | 1984-2001 | 343 | 1 |
| Alan Hunter | 1983-97 | 343 | 54 |

# A HISTORY OF THE NSL FINALS

From the commencement of the national league in 1977, until 1983, the NSL champions were determined by the team which finished the regular season at the top of the ladder - first-past-the-post system. This system also applied in 1987.

In 1978, 1979, 1980, 1982 and 1987 the top four or five placed teams competed in a 'post-season play-off' series. But these were separate competitions, and consequently were not given much importance or prestige. Without the incentive of championship glory, and combined with the 'hangover effect' for the team which had already won the championship by finishing first on the ladder, these post-season play-offs were of little significance.

| Year | Result | Venue | Attendance |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1977 | (not played) | | |
| 1978 | Sydney City 4 - Marconi Stallions 2 | Sydney Sports Ground | 9,136 |
| 1979 | 1st leg: Sydney City 1 - Brisbane City 0 | Wentworth Park, Sydney | 2,532 |
| | 2nd leg: Brisbane City 1 - Sydney City 1 | Perry Park, Brisbane | 4,200 |
| 1980 | Heidelberg 4 - Sydney City 0 | Bruce Stadium, Canberra | 11,126 |
| 1981 | (not played) | | |
| 1982 | St George 3 - Sydney City 1 | Penrith Park | 6,145 |
| 1983 | (not played) | | |
| 1987 | St George 4 - Apia-Leichhardt 0 | Parramatta Stadium, Sydney | 6,961 |

## A new era - the Aussie way

With a restructure of the national league in 1984 came the adoption of the 'real' finals system. From the 1984 season onwards, the winner of the finals series were considered the champions - in line with the other major Australian sporting leagues. And from its onset, national league crowds and its media coverage increased substantially.

The current final six system has been in place since the 1992-93 season. Before that, the traditional final five system applied.

Note that in 1984, 1985 and 1986, the national league was split into two conferences, based on a north-south geographic split of teams. The grand final winners of these two conferences then played off – over two legs - for the national championship.

Up until last Sunday's preliminary final, a total of 402 goals - excluding goals scored in penalty shoot-outs - had been scored in 152 finals matches. Joe Sweeney scored the first ever goal in a 'real' finals game – in the 16th minute of the Melbourne Zerbas' 2-4 loss to Brisbane Lions on 10 October 1984. The 100th finals goal was scored by Nick Deligiannis for Footscray against Sunshine in 1986. In 1993 Jose Iriarte netted the 200th finals goal for the Adelaide Sharks who defeated Adelaide City 1-0 that day. The 300th goal was scored by South Melbourne's Michael Curcija in his team's 4-1 win over the Melbourne Knights in 1997. And finals goal number 400 was recorded by Ante Juric in Sydney Olympic's 1-0 win over the Melbourne Knights two weeks ago.

Fourteen penalty shoot-outs have been used to determine winners in drawn NSL finals games. The most goals scored in a finals penalty shoot-out was 13, with the shoot-out scoreline of 7-6 recorded four times, most recently in last season's grand final.

The most common scoreline in NSL finals matches is 1-0, which has occurred 40 times before today. The next most popular scoreline is 2-1, which has occurred 37 times.

The most experienced NSL finals referee is retired Richard Lorenc, who officiated 15 finals games between 1984 and 1995.

## NSL GRAND FINALS-BRIEF DETAILS

| Season | Score | Venue | Attendance |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1984 1st leg | South Melbourne 2 - Sydney Olympic 1 | Olympic Park | 10000 |
| 2nd leg | Sydney Olympic 1 - South Melbourne 2 | St George Stadium | 11221 |
| | South Melbourne 4-2 on aggregate | | |
| 1985 1st leg | Sydney City 0 - Melbourne Zebras 1 | St George Stadium | 2491 |
| 2nd leg | Melbourne Zebras 1 - Sydney City 0 | Olympic Park | 7560 |
| | Melbourne Zebras 2-0 on aggregate | | |
| 1986 1st leg | Adelaide City 0 - Sydney Olympic 1 | Hindmarsh Stadium | 12232 |
| 2nd leg | Sydney Olympic 1 - Adelaide City 3 | Parramatta Stadium | 14032 |
| | Adelaide City 3-2 on aggregate | | |
| 1988 | Sydney United 2 (4pen) - Marconi Stallions 2 (5pen) | Parramatta Stadium | 17064 |
| 1989 | Marconi Stallions 1 - Sydney Olympic 0 | Parramatta Stadium | 23387 |
| 1989/90 | Marconi Stallions 0 - Sydney Olympic 2 | Parramatta Stadium | 26352 |
| 1990/91 | Melbourne Knights 1 (4pen) - South Melbourne 1 (5pen) | Olympic Park | 23318 |
| 1991/92 | Melbourne Knights 0 (2pen) - Adelaide City 0 (4pen) | Olympic Park | 15463 |
| 1992/93 | Marconi Stallions 1 - Adelaide City 0 | Parramatta Stadium | 13376 |
| 1993/94 | Melbourne Knights 0 - Adelaide City 1 | Olympic Park | 13970 |
| 1994/95 | Adelaide City 0 - Melbourne Knights 2 | Hindmarsh Stadium | 15573 |
| 1995/96 | Melbourne Knights 2 - Marconi Stallions 1 | Olympic Park | 14258 |
| 1996/97 | Brisbane Strikers 2 - Sydney United 0 | Suncorp Stadium | 40446 |
| 1997/98 | South Melbourne 2 - Carlton 1 | Olympic Park | 15706 |
| 1998/99 | South Melbourne 3 - Sydney United 2 | Olympic Park | 15194 |
| 1999/00 | Perth Glory 3 (6pen) - Wollongong Wolves 3 (7pen) | Subiaco Oval | 43242 |

**Grand final victories - clubs**
South Melbourne 4, Adelaide City 3, Marconi Stallions 3, Melbourne Knights 2, Brisbane Strikers 1, Melbourne Zebras 1, Sydney Olympic 1, Wollongong Wolves 1

**Appearances in grand finals - clubs**
Adelaide City 5, Marconi Stallions 5, Melbourne Knights 5, South Melbourne 4, Sydney Olympic 4, Sydney United 3, Brisbane Strikers 1, Carlton 1, Melbourne Zebras 1, Perth Glory 1, Sydney City 1, Wollongong Wolves 1

**Grand final goals - clubs**
South Melbourne 10, Sydney Olympic 6, Marconi Stallions 5, Melbourne Knights 5, Adelaide City 4, Sydney United 4, Perth Glory 3, Wollongong Wolves 3, Brisbane Strikers 2, Melbourne Zebras 2, Carlton 1

**Most grand final victories - player**
4 - Fausto De Amicis (Melbourne Knights 2, South Melbourne 2)

**Most appearances in grand finals - player**
5 - Fausto De Amicis (Melbourne Knights 3, South Melbourne 2), Andrew Marth (Melbourne Knights 5), Sergio Melta (Adelaide City 5), Joe Mullen (Adelaide City 5), Alex Tobin (Adelaide City 5)

**Most grand final goals - player**
3 - John Anastasiadis (South Melbourne 3), Andrew Marth (Melbourne Knights 3)

**Youngest grand final player**
Jason Culina, who was just 16 years 293 days old when his team, Sydney United, lost 0-2 to Brisbane Strikers in the 1996/97 grand final

**Oldest grand final player**
Bugsy Nyskohus, who was 36 years 123 days old when his team, Adelaide City, defeated Sydney Olympic won 3-1 in the second leg of the 1986 grand final

**Youngest grand final goal scorer**
Ljubo Milicevic of Perth Glory, who was 19 years 119 days old when he scored in his team's loss on penalties to Wollongong Wolves in the 1999/00 grand final

**Oldest grand final goal scorer**
Rod Brown of Brisbane Strikers, who was 33 years 118 days old when he scored in his team's 2-0 win over Sydney United in the 1996/97 grand final

**Quickest grand final goal**
Mark Koussas, who scored for Sydney Olympic in the 5th minute of the first leg 1984 grand final against South Melbourne

**Grand final red cards**
Murray Barnes (1985 - first leg - Sydney City), Marshall Soper (1986 - second leg - Sydney Olympic), Ivan Petkovic (1988 - Sydney United), Gerry Gomez (1988 - Marconi Stallions), Matteo Colucci (1989 - Marconi Stallions)

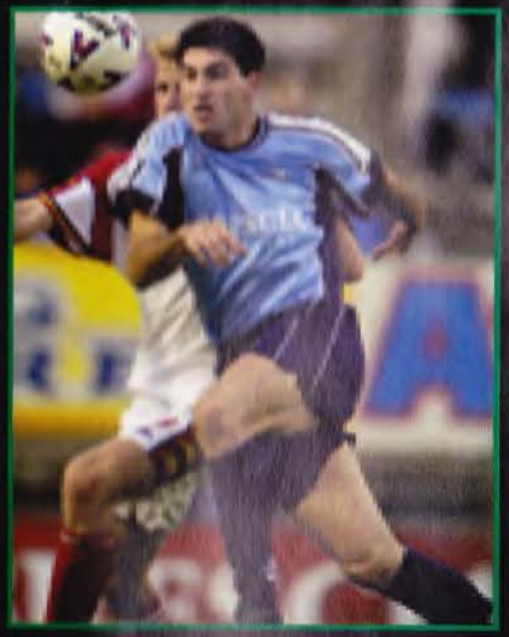
**Most grand final victories - coach**
3 - Zoran Matic (Adelaide City 3)

**Youngest grand final team**
The Melbourne Knights team who defeated Adelaide City 2-0 in the 1994/95 grand final, who were aged 23.0 years on average

**Oldest grand final team**
The Melbourne Knights team who lost to Adelaide City 0-1 in the 1991/92 grand final, who were aged 27.5 years on average

**Grand final venues**
Olympic Park (Melbourne) 8 matches, Parramatta Stadium (Sydney) 5, Hindmarsh Stadium (Adelaide) 2, St George Stadium (Sydney) 2, Subiaco Oval (Perth) 1, Suncorp Metway Stadium (Brisbane) 1

**Most grand finals officiated by a referee**
4 - Chris Bambridge (1984 second leg, 1986 first leg, 1988, 1990/91)



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The National Youth League (NYL) commenced in 1984 and is now firmly established as the elite competition for Australia's rising stars. The competition is credited with showcasing the talents of Australia's biggest names.

Players such as current LG Socceroos Paul Okon, Mark Viduka and Brett Emerton to name just a few, began their careers in the NYL.

The competition is played, in the main, by players who qualify by age for the current FIFA World Youth Championships (ie. Players born on or after 1 January 1981). This is adjusted every two years to coincide with the next FIFA World Youth Championships.

This seasons NYL competition comprised of the following divisions:

- Northern Division
- Southern Division

At the conclusion of the Premiership Rounds the Top Four placed teams play-off for their Divisional Championship. The Northern and Southern Divisional Champions then played off in the National Grand Final to determine the National Youth League Champions.

The 2000 / 2001 Northern and Southern Divisional Champions are the Marconi Stallions and the Melbourne Knights.

## The Road to the NYL National Grand Final

### MARCONI STALLIONS

The Marconi Stallions finished the 2000 / 2001 NYL Northern Division season in second (2nd) place behind the Premiers the Australian Institute of Sport. The teams met in the Preliminary Semi Final where the Marconi Stallions faced the star studded line-up of the Australian Institute of Sport, which included Australian U/17's Nathan Coe, Carl Valeri and Anthony Danze. The Stallions defeated the AIS two (2) goals to nil (0) with goals to Harry Karl and Australian U/20's striker Kevo Gulesserian.

After advancing straight into Northern Divisional Grand Final the Marconi Stallions put on an incredible performance to overpower Northern Spirit four (4) goals to two (2). LG U/20 stars Kevo Gulesserian and Grant Last, scored a goal each with Marconi Stallions striker Anthony Mondello and midfielder Eric Anabalon also snatching a goal each.

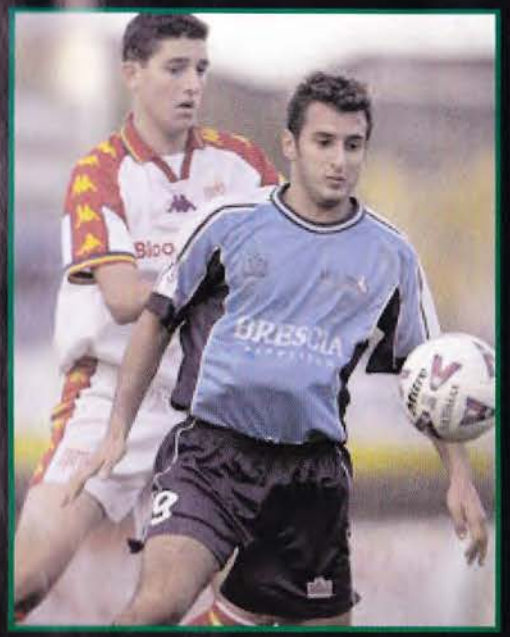
NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

### MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

The Melbourne Knights finished the 2000 / 2001 NYL Southern Division season in third (3rd) place behind Premiers South Melbourne Institute and second place Eastern Pride. In a hard-fought Southern Division Elimination Semi Final the Melbourne Knights beat the Victorian Institute of Sport (VIS), who finished fourth, two (2) goals to nil (0). Knights striker Xhezair Sulemani scored both goals which saw his team progress to the Preliminary Final. In the Preliminary Final the Knights defeated South Melbourne Institute two (2) goals to one (1) to advance to the Grand Final. Both goals were scored by Knights midfielder Jasmin Sehic, while the lone goal for South Melbourne was scored by Vince Lia.

Having overpowered two outstanding teams in the Southern Division Finals Series, the Melbourne Knights were ready to take on the Eastern Pride in the Southern Division Grand Final, who progressed directly into the Grand Final after defeating the South Melbourne Institute in the Preliminary Semi Final three (3) goals to two (2). It took another superb goal from Knights striker Xhezair Sulemani to ensure the Knights a place in the National Grand Final.

The National Grand Final was played on Saturday 2 June 2001, at Marconi Stadium between the Melbourne Knights and the Marconi Stallions. The result will be announced during today's NSL Grand Final.



*Autographs*

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GRAND FINAL

## WOLLONGONG WOLVES

1. Daniel Boltrame
2. George Souris
3. Alvin Ceccoli
4. Robert Stanton
5. David Cervinski
6. Mathew Horsley (Capt)
7. Paul Reid
8. Max Nicholson
9. Sasa Petrovski
10. Stuart Young
11. Scott Chipperfield
12. Paul Harries
13. George Nahra
14. Jay Lucas
15. David Huxley
16. Beren Sullivan
17. Ben Blake
18. Paul O'Grady
19. Steven Dimitrievski
20. Grant Barlow
22. Steve Angelov
23. Dino Mennillo
26. Dean Anastasidi
27. Robert Middleby

**COACH:** Ron Corry
**ASSIST COACH:** Stuart eedie

## SOUTH MELBOURNE

1. Michael Petkovic (gk)
2. Steve Iosifidis
3. Fausto De Amicis
4. Mehmet Durakovic
5. Robert Liparoti
6. David Clarkson
7. Steve Panopoulos
8. Vaughan Coveny
9. Paul Trimboli (c)
10. Con Boutsianis
11. John Anastasiadis
12. Richie Alagich
13. Andy Vlahos
14. Vas Kalogeracos
15. Goran Lozanovski
16. Zeljko Susa
17. Rade Culibrk
18. Marco Santilli
19. Patrick Kisnorbo
20. Chris Jones (gk)
21. Massimo Murdocca
22. Steve Esposito
23. Frederico Au (gk)
24. Nick Tolios
25. Simon Colosimo

**COACH:** Mike Petersen

### TODAY'S MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Eddie Lennie  Assistant Referees: John Bowdler, John Peacock
4th Official: Mark Shield

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE
QANTAS
7sport
Mitre The authority...
LG Life's Good
International Entertainment CORPORATION

GRAND FINAL